WEEK OF Jan. 14

ECCC Diamond Darlings

The 2008 Diamond Darlings at East Central Community College, who assist in promoting and supporting the College's Diamond Warrior baseball team. are (front row, from left) Kasey Crutcher, Edinburg; Jennifer Sistrunk, Carthage; Joy Hayes, Newton County; and Ashley Fortune, Edinburg; (second row, from left) Olivia Scott, Carthage; Samantha Wright, Winston Academy; and Lauren Lyle, Carthage; (third row, from left) Caitlin Puckett, Winston Academy; Lacy McMurry, Edinburg; Whitney Smith, Winston Academy; and Caitlin Harper, Newton County Academy; (fourth row, from left) Ginny Mitchell, Leake Academy; Santigous Culpepper, Forest; and Jennifer Wyatt, Newton County Academy; and (fifth row, from left) Ashley Pigg, Edinburg; Britni Harvey, Leake Academy; Erica Dowell, Edinburg; and Tiffany Thomas, Winston Academy. Katie Sparkman serves as sponsor. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Jan. 14

The Newton Record

SPORTS 1B

Wednesday, January 16, 2008

Polk coming to EC's First-Pitch Dinner

Special to The Record

Longtime Mississippi State University baseball coach Ron Polk will be the featured speaker when East Central Community College holds its second annual First Pitch Dinner scheduled Tuesday, January 22, 2008, on the Decatur campus.

ECCC head baseball coach Neal Holliman, who guided the 2007 Diamond Warriors to the MACJC State Championship in his first year as head coach, invites the public to attend the baseball preseason banquet, which begins at 6:30 p.m. in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Tickets are $20 for adults and $10 for ages 12 and under.

Holliman

"Coach Polk is obviously one of the most successful college coaches in the nation," Holliman stated, "and we are certain we will have a large crowd to hear him speak. This is also a great opportunity for our fans to meet the 2008 Diamond Warrior team. We're looking forward to a great evening and are very excited about the upcoming season."

Coach Polk is in his 29th season as the MSU baseball skipper and 35th year as a collegiate head coach.

He guided the 2007 Bulldogs to their eighth appearance in the NCAA College World Series in Omaha, Nebraska, completing season action with a 38-22 record. The Diamond Dawgs advanced to the CWS after capturing the NCAA Tallahassee Regional and Starkville Super Regional.

Polk has also guided his MSU squad to five regular season or tournament championships and 23 NCAA post season berths. Polk's overall coaching record is 1,350-669-2 and his MSU mark is 1,116-557-2.

He has twice been honored as National Coach of the Year and is

See **POLK**, Page 2B

FYI

Polk

What: Second Annual First-Pitch Dinner for the East Central Community College baseball team.

When: Tuesday, Jan. 22, 6:30 p.m.

Where: East Central Community College cafeteria.

How Much: Tickets are $20 for adults and $10 for ages 12 and under.

Who: Mississippi State baseball coach Ron Polk.

Polk

From Page 1B

a member of the American Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame, Mississippi and MSU Sports Halls of Fame, and the Georgia Southern University Hall of Fame.

East Central begins the 2008 baseball season by hosting Alabama Southern in double-header action beginning at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 5 at the Clark-Gay Memorial Baseball Complex.

For more information on the ECCC First Pitch Dinner or to purchase tickets contact Coach Neal Holliman, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 374. His email address is nholliman@eccc.edu.

Coach Holliman urges everyone to purchase tickets in advance to ensure seating.

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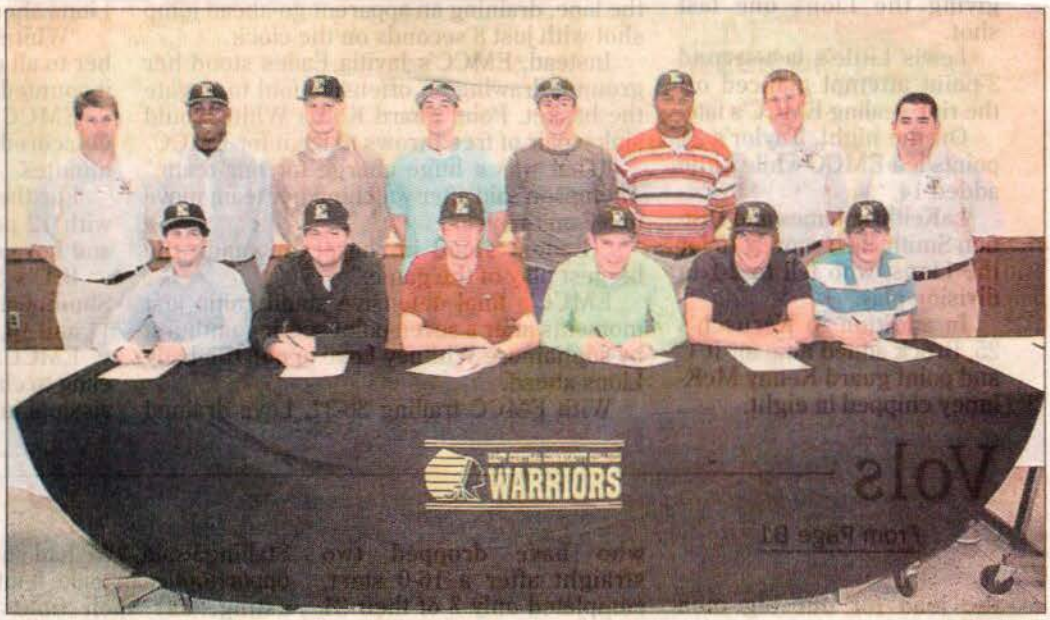

ECCC PHOTO

NEW WARRIORS

Eleven high school baseball standouts took part in Tuesday's signing ceremony at ECCC.

Holliman, Diamond Warriors add 11 new signees to class

from school reports

East Central Community College head baseball coach Neal Holliman took advantage of the early signing period by welcoming 11 new squad members to the 2008 recruiting class during a ceremony held Tuesday on the Decatur campus.

Joining the Diamond Warriors for 2008-09 are Quin Stokes, a 6', 195-pound catcher/outfielder from Carthage High School and coached by former Diamond Warrior David Luke; Drew Wilson, a 6'2, 215-pound pitcher/first baseman, Tyler Laird, a 6-1, 190-pound infielder, Jeremy May, a 5-8, 160-pound catcher and Tyler Davis, a 6-2, 185-pound pitcher, all from Newton County High School and coached by Wyatt Tullos; Sam Wooten, a 6-1, 190-pound catcher from Lake High School and coached by Brian Goodman; Tevin Houston, a 6-1, 205-pound outfielder from Philadelphia High School and coached by Eddie Pierce; Austin Buchanan, a 6-4, 175-pound pitcher from Neshoba Central and coached by former Diamond Warrior Brian Jones; Jordan Smith, a 6', 172-pound catcher/infielder from Union High School and coached by former Diamond Warrior Turk Stovall; Barry Meeks, a 5-10, 190-pound pitcher from Patrician Academy in Sweet Water, Ala.; and Garrett Butler, a 5-11, 170-pound infielder from Runnels High School in Baton Rouge, La.

Stokes was named to the All-Division 5-3A team and received the Diamond Tigers' best offensive player award.

Wilson also made the All-Division 5-3A squad and received the Diamond Cougars' top pitcher award. He is also a member of the .300 Club.

Laird, an All-Division 5-3A honorable mention selection, serves as team captain and received the Krump Award. He also qualified for the .300 Club.

May was selected most versatile and received the base runner award. He is also a member of the .300 Club.

Davis is also a recipient of the most versatile and ERA awards, and is a member of the .300 Club. Wooten, an All Division selection in 2006 and 2007, was named best offensive player in 2007.

Houston made the All-District team his junior season.

Buchanan was an All-District selection in 2007 and received his team's most improved player award. During the 2007 campaign, he posted a 7-2 mark on the mound with a 1.65 earned run average. He fanned 63 batters in 72 innings of work. He also had a .362 batting average.

Smith batted .365 his junior year and received the most improved player award.

Meeks made the All-District team in 2007 and received his team's most valuable pitcher award.

Butler is an All-State and All-District performer.

"We are pleased with our efforts so far toward the 2008 signing class, but we still have several players that have caught our eye," Holliman said of the early signing class. "We will continue to work and evaluate to find the best combinations for the East Central baseball program."

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WEEK OF Jan. 21

New Diamond Warriors

Area baseball standouts (seated second, from left) Drew Wilson and Tyler Laird, both of Newton County High School; Jordan Smith of Union High School; and Jeremy May and Tyler Davis, both of Newton County High School, were welcomed to the 2008-09 East Central Community College baseball squad during a signing ceremony held January 15 on the Decatur campus. Wilson, a 6-foot-2, 215-pound pitcher/first baseman, made the All-Division 5-3A squad and received the Cougars' Best Offensive Player award. Laird, a 6-foot-1, 190-pound infielder, was an All-Division 5-3A honorable mention selection and serves as team captain. He is also a member of the .300 Club. Smith, a 6-foot, 172-pound catcher/infielder, batted .365 his junior year and received the Most Improved Award. May, a 5-foot-8, 160-pound catcher, was selected Most Versatile and received the Base Runner award. He is also a member of the .300 Club. Davis, a 6-foot-2, 185-pound pitcher, also received a Most Versatile award and the ERA award. He is also a .300 Club member. The Newton County players are coached by Wyatt Tullos and former Diamond Warrior Turk Stovall is Smith's coach at Union. Seated with the new Diamond Warriors are (from left) head coach Neal Holliman and assistants Michael Avalon and Roberto Martinez. Standing, from left, are the signees' parents, Dennis and Wanda Wilson, Amanda Laird, Rosemary and James Earl Smith, Jerry and Gina May, and Sandra and Chuck Davis. Not pictured is Laird's father, Jeff Laird. The Diamond Warriors are the defending MACJC State Baseball Champions.

EC photo

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WEEK OF Jan. 28

MCC, East Central each split on road

AREA ROUNDUP

from staff reports

One game after scoring a team-high 31 points, Meridian Community College's NaDosha Strickland continued her torrid shooting, establishing a new career-high with 41 points in leading the Lady Eagles to an 81-71 win at Gulf Coast Monday night.

Behind Strickland, a former standout at Bay Springs High School, Meridian turned a 39-39 halftime tie into a 10-point win.

In addition to Strickland, Monique Clayton added 13 for the Lady Eagles.

Savannah Palamarez paced Gulf Coast with 25.

With the win, Meridian improved to 15-3 overall and 5-2 in division play to keep pace with 6-1 East Central.

-Brandon Walker

Gulf Coast men 80
Meridian 78

After owning a 42-38 halftime lead, Meridian's Eagles were unable to keep up with homestanding Gulf Coast, who roared back to claim a 2-point win.

Sophomore Regis Huddleston, also of Bay Springs, scored a game-high 33 to lead the Eagles while TC Franklin countered with 26 for Gulf Coast.Meridian will remain on the road Thursday night, traveling to take on Hinds in another doubleheader.

-Brandon Walker

East Central 63
Pearl River 53

East Central Community College's Lady Warriors improved to 15-2 overall and 6-1 in MACJC South Division play with a 63-53 victory on the road at Pearl River Monday night.

After owning a 34-30 halftime lead, the Lady Warriors extended their lead to earn the 10-point win.

For the Lady Warriors, Rashima Jenkins connected on 12-of-16 shots from the field for a game-high 27 points and added 11 rebounds to lead the way.

Mystee Dale added 14 for East Central while Tanesha Brown scored 10.

Sherrion Thomas led Pearl River (13-5, 4-3) with 11 points.

-Brandon Walker

Pearl River Men 70
East Central 67

After trailing by 12 at halftime, East Central's Warriors made a second-half push before falling short Monday night.

East Central's Devarius Walker led the second half charge, connecting for five three-pointers en route to a team-high 23 points. Josh Luckett added 13 for the Warriors while Des Morales and Justin Brown each scored eight.For PRCC, Donta Smith led the way with 20.

With the loss, East Central falls to 7-11 overall and 2-5 in division play.

-Brandon Walker

PREP BASKETBALL

Enterprise boys 61
West Lauderdale 59

In a game that was nip-and-tuck from the outset, Enterprise entered halftime with a two-point lead and held on for a win over West Lauderdale Monday night.

After owning a 28-26 halftime lead over the Knights, Enterprise held on despite a late charge for the win.

For the Bulldogs, who improved to 7-9 with the win, J.D. McGruder led the way with 14 points, followed by Dion Johnson with 12 and Marquez Goodloe with 10. Paris Johnson added eight for EHS.

On the West Lauderdale side, Justin Ford paced all scorers with 16 while Matthew Betts chipped in 13 and Nathan Herrington added 11.

Enterprise will return home to host Neshoba Central tonight while West will travel to Quitman.

-Brandon Walker

West Lauderdale 38
Enterprise girls 37

Trailing by a bucket heading into the fourth quarter, West Lauderdale's Lady Knight outscored Enterprise 7-4 in the final frame to escape with a 1-point win.

For West Lauderdale, Leslie Martin scored eight, while Nundie Franklin and Tambria Davis each added seven.

On the Enterprise side, Baleigh Volking led all scorers with 14 while Katie Sheppard added 13.

-Brandon Walker

PREP SOCCER

West Lauderdale 8
Neshoba Central 3

Missing the Class 4A playoffs by an eyelash, West Lauderdale's boys ended their season on a winning note Monday night.

Behind a four-goal performance from Nathan Hodges, the Knights ended their season at 10-8 overall and 5-3 in division play.

In addition to Hodges, the Knights received a pair of goals from Caleb Brown.

Also scoring for WL were Alex Malvaez and Jacob Daniels.For West, Chase Sonak added a pair of assists.

-Brandon Walker

LATE BASKETBALL

Leake Aca. girls 67
Manchester 23

The No. 1 ranked Rebelettes opened the game with a 35-2 run and coasted to their 30th win of the season against no defeats.

Leake led 45-8 at halftime and got a game-high 21 points from Mary Lauren Wilson. Emily Kea added 14 points, while Anna Winstead scored 12.

Brittany Gross and Ragen Sistrunk shared team-high honors with five assists each, while Hannah Lee had six steals.

Leake, 30-0, had its contest against Oak Hill on Saturday canceled.

The Rebelettes go to Tri-County Academy tonight.

— Rocky Higginbotham

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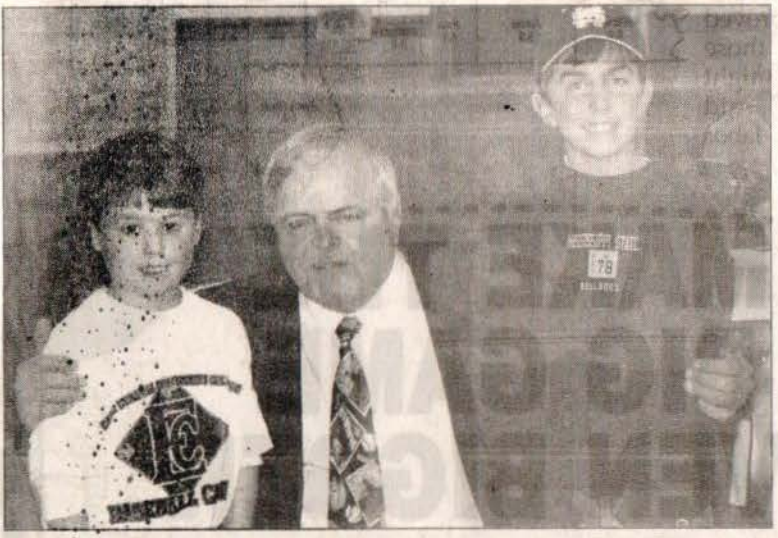

Meeting Mississippi State head baseball coach Ron Polk (center) are Joel Hill (left) and John Ross Griffin, both of Decatur.

Photo by Marty Stamper

Polk issues challenge to Diamond Warriors

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

When long-time Mississippi State head baseball coach Ron Polk spoke an estimated crowd of 200 at the second-annual First Pitch Dinner on Jan. 22 at East Central Community College, he issued the Diamond Warriors a few challenges.

Surprisingly to those unfamiliar with the Bulldog skipper, none had anything to do with repeating as MACJC state champions.

"We have all these 18, 19, 20-year old boys here tonight ... what an exciting time in their lives," Polk said.

"The scoreboard is going to be turned on in a few weeks. I really like shaking the hands of the other coach after we've won, but it's not the only thing. Baseball is a sport and should be treated as such, not as a war.

"In life, you're going to have winners and losers. That's what it's all about. But these young men play because they enjoy the game, the fellowship, the competition.

"Raising young men in this age is difficult. It's our job to make sure they understand the more important things.

"Let's love them and nuture them. And let's discipline them with what's right and what's wrong. There are so many distractions today.

"The next three or four years are going to determine what you become the rest of your life. You cannot replace these years."

Polk listed four steps for the Warriors to follow to help ensure bright futures.

"You've got to have faith in a supreme being. Withou faith, you walk through lif without purpose.

"You need to have some thing to pick you up becaus you're going to have goo days as well as bad days.

"You have to have a com mitment to be somethin special.

"And you need to make difference in someone's lif every day. This world need difference makers."

Polk also took the oppor tunity to throw in a few barbs at SEC rival Ole Miss

Continued on 3B...
See Polk...

Polk...

Continued from 2B...

"I have great respect for the city of Oxford," Polk said. "It's a great place to visit, not to stay. Whenever I'm there, I always ask for a room without a view."

He also recognized former MSU Bulldog and ECCC Warrior Hank Thoms.

"When he played, he looked like a Greek god. Now he looks like a Greek restaurant."

And no Polk speech comes without a not-so-friendly reference to the NCAA.

"The NCAA is not a friend of college baseball," Polk said. "But there are no umpires and no NCAA people here, so we're going to get along great."

The ECCC Warriors open their season on Feb. 5 at 1 p.m. in Decatur against Alabama Southern Community College.

Warrior coach Neil Holliman announced several improvements to the Clark-Gay Baseball Complex. Among them are 17 flag poles representing each of the MACJC member schools. A new entrance is currently being constructed and 58 chairback seats have been installed for the '08 campaign.

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WEEK OF Jan. 28

, Carthage, Miss., January 31 , 2008

Stokes signs ECCC baseball scholarship

Quin Stokes, seated at right, of Carthage has signed a national letter of intent to continue his baseball career at East Central Community College in Decatur. Stokes was welcomed to the 2008-09 Diamond Warrior squad during a scholarship signing ceremony held January 15 on the ECCC campus. His coach is former Diamond Warrior David Luke. Stokes' parents are Darlene Stokes, seated left, and Joe Quin Stokes. Standing from left are ECCC head baseball coach Neal Holliman and assistants Michael Avalon and Roberto Martinez. The Diamond Warriors are the defending MACJC State Baseball Champions. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Feb. 4

EC baseball squad opens season today

Special to The Star

Neal Holliman admits being somewhat surprised by the success of his 2007 East Central Community College baseball squad, which captured the MACJC state baseball championship en route to a 31-23 mark.

Holliman

Holliman, who also garnered Coach of the Year honors following his initial season as the Diamond Warrior skipper, said there's no doubt last year's team "earned everything they got."

"To be 13-18 at one point in the season and for that group of young men to pull themselves out of that hole and win a championship was a tremendous accomplishment," Holliman said. "I don't know if I have ever been more proud of a group of men, not because they won the conference championship, but just because they bought into what we were trying to do and all got on the same page."

See **EC Baseball**
Page B3

EC Baseball

From Page B1

"Once we got down to the core group that was willing to accept and adopt everything we were trying to do. That team exploded and became very hard to beat, due in large part to their great character."

Holliman is obviously anticipating another successful season, but his main objective in 2008 is for his Diamond Warriors to perform to the best of their ability when they get a new campaign under way today by hosting Alabama Southern.

"The goal for this year's team is the same as it will always be, that is to maximize our potential," he stated."Sure, we want to win a conference and regional championship and advance to the (NJCAA) World Series to compete for a national title, but you never know what the year will hold."

Several players return from last year's championship squad return.

"We feel very fortunate to have our entire middle returning with Chris Parkman at catcher, Brian Jones at shortstop, Jacob Casey at second base and Terrell Hendrix in center field," Holliman noted. "In addition, Josh Lafferty returns in left field, and Jesus Aleman and Gregory Stovall return on the mound and were conference starters for us as freshmen."

Hendrix, is the top returning slugger with a .409 average. He was also a constant threat on the bases and was successful on 28 of 31 attempts in garnering all-state honors.

Jones batted .308 and had one dinger, seven doubles and 38 RBIs. Casey, a former standout at Union High School, posted a .289 average. He had one home run, four doubles and 21 RBIs.

Parkman, a UWA transfer from Pulaski, was a constant stability behind the plate as he managed the Warrior pitching staff. Lafferty, who hails from Quitman High School, was a starter in left field and completed the season with two homers, five doubles and 23 RBIs.

Aleman, another UWA transfer, went 7-2 on the mound and had a 4.15 earned-run average. Neshoba Central product Stovall was 4-5 on the mound with a 3.48 ERA.

Casey, Parkman, Lafferty and Aleman will also serve as 2008 team captains.

ECCC fans will notice many improvements to the Clark/Gay Memorial Baseball Complex, which Holliman considers an "ongoing project."

Improvements since last spring include the addition of 17 flag poles which will display flags representing each community and junior college team, the MACJC and NJCAA; construction of two decks – one located beyond the left field fence "for fans to enjoy and create an exciting atmosphere" and one placed along the first base side for use by EC faculty and others; the area underneath the stands has been enclosed with bricks, new railings have been installed, along with a walking hand rail through the middle of the stands; and artwork has been added to the dugouts and club house located on the south end of the gym

Holliman said 58 chairback seats will be placed along the concrete area behind home plate by opening day.

"We still have several projects that are in the planning and some that are under way," Holliman said. "We have continually worked to improve our facility because it is obviously a great asset in recruiting."

Holliman also offered praise to his assistants, Michael Avalon and Roberto Martinez "for helping us continue to develop the program into the best it can be."

Plans for the today's season-opening doubleheader against Alabama Southern include a recognition ceremony for members of the 2007 state championship squad.

Holliman said team co-captain Jordan Robinson of Union is scheduled to throw the ceremonial first pitch to start the 1 p.m. opener.

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WEEK OF Feb. 4

JUCO Baseball

East Central earns split on the road at Fayette

from staff reports

Deon Williams lashed out a pair of hits, including a homerun as visiting East Central Community College outpaced homestanding Fayette 9-7 in the opening game of a doubleheader Saturday afternoon.

In the nightcap, Fayette bounced back, handing East Central its first loss of the season in a 9-7 setback.

Starting pitcher Timothy Maloney, a former Northeast Lauderdale standout, earned his first win of the season with seven strong innings.

Maloney allowed three earned runs on nine hits for the win.

Offensively, Brian Jones collected three hits and a pair of RBI while Chris Parkman and ZeEricka Hall each banged out three hits.

In game two, Carey Miller took the loss on the hill for the 3-1 Warriors, allowing sic earned in three innings of work.

Terrell Hendrix paced EC with a 3-for-3 performance at the plate.

The Warriors will return to action Monday, traveling to take on Jones County.

-Brandon Walker

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WEEK OF Feb. 4

ECCC Diamond Warriors

\The defending state champion East Central Community College Diamond Warriors begin the 2008 campaign by hosting Alabama Southern Tuesday, Feb. 5, in doubleheader action beginning at 1 p.m. at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex in Decatur. Team members and their respective high schools include (first row, from left) infielder/outfielder Luke Walker (1), West Lauderdale; outfielder Allen Cheek (2), Carroll Academy; right-handed pitcher/middle infielder Brian Jones (3), Allen (Ky.) County; infielder Jack Edmondson (4), Nanih Waiya; infielder/catcher Kylie Ming (5), Louisville; right-handed pitcher/utility player Terrell Hendrix (6), East Oktibbeha; outfielder ZeEricka Hall (7), Carthage; outfielder Brandon Williams (9), Newton County; infielder/outfielder Deon Williams (10), Tuscaloosa County; and middle infielder Jacob Casey (11), Union; (second row, from left) left-handed pitcher Jared Clark (12), Brandon; left-handed pitcher Timothy Maloney (14), Northeast Lauderdale; outfielder Clint Coleman (15), Louisville; right-handed pitcher/infielder Steven Barnes (16), Covington HS, Folson, La.; left-handed pitcher Gregory Stovall (17), Neshoba Central; outfielder Kyle Buckley (18), Newton County; outfielder/infielder Josh Lafferty (19), Quitman; right-handed pitcher/utility player Robert Westbrook (20), Newton County; left-handed pitcher Mack Creighton (21), Quitman; and catcher Chris Parkman (23), Raleigh (University of West Alabama transfer); and (third row, from left) outfielder/infielder Kevin Moore (25), Southeast Lauderdale; right-handed pitcher Jesus Aleman (26), Belle Glade, Fla. (University of West Alabama transfer); right-handed pitcher Carey Miller (28), Louisville; right-handed pitcher Daven Willis (30), Choctaw Central; right-handed pitcher Tyler Nicholson (34), Neshoba Central; coaches Michael Avalon, Neal Holliman (head) and Roberto Martinez; and managers Kevin Ripley of Union and Justin Joyner, Newton County.

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WEEK OF 2-11-08

ECCC-Bevill State

East Central split its doubleheader Saturday at Bevill State in Fayette, Ala., winning the first game 9-6 and falling 9-7 in the second contest.

Shortstop Brian Jones, right fielder ZeEricka Hall and catcher Chris Parkman had three hits each to lead EC in the win.

Jones had two doubles, a single and collected two RBIs. He also scored twice. Hall was credited with a double and two singles. He also scored twice and had one RBI. Parkman had three singles and one RBI.

Deon Williams also had another productive day as he homered and singled. He also had two RBIs and scored once.

Southpaw Timothy Maloney of Southeast Lauderdale was the winning pitcher, allowing five runs on nine hits through seven innings.

In the second game, Hendrix was the top hitter with a double and two singles. Jones, Coleman, Westbrook and Parkman also doubled.

Coleman led in RBIs with two.

Carey Miller of Louisville took the loss for EC, allowing six runs on five hits through five innings.

See **ECCC**, Page 2B

ECCC

From Page 1B

ECCC-Jones

East Central Community College's Diamond Warriors split a doubleheader at Jones County Junior College in Ellisville Monday, winning the first game by a 7-4 margin and falling in the second contest 2-0.

In the opener, EC was led offensively by Brian Jones and Luke Walker who each doubled and singled. Chris Parkman and Brandon Williams belted two singles each and Josh Lafferty had a double.

Newton County's Robert Westbrook was the winning pitcher, allowing three runs on five hits through seven innings. He fanned three batters and walked two.

In the second contest, EC managed just two hits – singles by Jacob Casey of Union and Brian Jones.

Gregory Stovall of Neshoba Central took the loss for EC, allowing two runs on two hits. He fanned six batters and walked six.

EC, now 4-2 on the young season, will host this weekend's invitational tournament at the Clark-Gay Baseball Complex in Decatur. Participating teams include Kaskasia (Centralia, Illinois), Baton Rouge, Gulf Coast, Northwest, Northeast, Wallace-Hanceville and East Central.

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WEEK OF 2-11-08

ECCC baseball starts 4-2

The defending state champion East Central Community College Diamond Warriors began the 2008 campaign on a positive note by sweeping visiting Alabama Southern Community College Tuesday, Feb. 5.

East Central won the opener by a 6-5 score on Deon Williams' solo home run in the bottom of the tenth, and held on for a 9-7 decision in the nightcap.

Diamond Warrior head coach Neal Holliman said he was pleased with his squad's performance.

"We had a positive day for the opener with a great crowd on hand to watch the Diamond Warriors begin the season," Holliman said. "We were pleased with our efforts and feel like we got off to a good start beating a very qualified opponent in Alabama Southern."

Also blasting home runs in addition to Williams were second baseman Jacob Casey of Union and catcher Chris Parkman.

Shortstop Brian Jones led EC at the plate with a double and two singles. He also collected an RBI and scored once. Williams, Casey and Parkman also singled. Casey also scored twice and had one RBI. Parkman collected two RBIs and scored twice.

Jones was credited with the win in relief. He allowed just one hit and no runs over the final two-and-a-third innings.

Robert Westbrook was the starter for EC, allowing four runs on four hits through five innings of work. He also fanned two batters and walked one.

Jones also led EC at the plate in the second contest with three singles and four RBIs. Hendrix homered and singled and also knocked in four runs. Right-fielder ZeErica Hall doubled and singled and added an RBI. Williams and Parkman also had singles each.

Jared Clark of Brandon got the win for EC in the second contest. He allowed two runs on four hits in two and two-third innings of middle relief.

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WEEK OF 2-11-08

Diamond Warriors win three of four

from school reports

The East Central Community College Diamond Warriors opened their 2008 baseball season with three wins in four outings.

EC swept Alabama Southern at home to start the season, then split a pair of games at Bevill State.

The will serve as host for invitational tournament scheduled Feb. 15-17 on the Decatur campus.

ECCC 6-9
Alabama Southern 5-7

The defending state champion Warriors began the 2008 campaign by sweeping visiting Alabama Southern on February 5 at Decatur.

In the opener, EC grabbed the win on a solo homer by Deon Williams in the bottom of the 10th inning.

"We had a positive day for the opener with a great crowd on hand to watch the Diamond Warriors begin the season," said EC second-year head coach Neal Holliman. "We were pleased with our efforts and feel like we got off to a good start beating a very qualified opponent in Alabama Southern."

Also blasting home runs in addition to Williams, a product of Tuscaloosa County High School, were second baseman Jacob Casey of Union and catcher Chris Parkman.

Shortstop Brian Jones led EC at the plate with a double and two singles.

Williams, Casey, and Parkman also singled. Casey also scored twice and had one RBI. Parkman collected two RBIs and scored twice.

Jones was credited with the win in relief. He allowed just one hit and no runs over the final 2 1/3 innings. He fanned four batters and walked none.

Jones also led EC at the plate in the second contest with three singles and four RBIs. Terrell Hendrix homered and singled and knocked in four runs. Right fielder ZeErica Hall doubled and singled and added an RBI. Williams and Parkman also had singles each.

Hendrix scored four runs.

Jared Clark got the win for EC. He allowed two runs on four hits in 2 2/3 innings of middle relief. He fanned two batters and walked none.

Jones pitched the final 2 1/3 innings, allowing just two hits and no runs. He fanned three batters.

ECCC 9-7
Bevill State 6-9

EC split its doubleheader Saturday at Fayette, Ala. Shortstop Brian Jones, right fielder ZeErica Hall, and catcher Chris Parkman had three hits each to lead EC.

Jones had two doubles, a single and collected two RBIs. He also scored twice. Hall was credited with a double and two singles. He also scored twice and had one RBI. Parkman had three singles and one RBI.

Deon Williams homered and singled to drive in a pair of runs.

Singles were also recorded by Terrell Hendrix, Robert Westbrook, and Kylie Ming.

Southpaw Timothy Maloney was the winning pitcher, allowing five runs on nine hits through seven innings. Maloney fanned two batters and walked two. Daven Willis got the save. He allowed one run on one hit, fanned two and walked one.

In the second game, Hendrix was the top hitter with a double and two singles. Jones, Coleman, Westbrook, and Parkman also doubled. Singles were recorded by Luke Walker, Brandon Williams, and Jack Edmonson. Coleman led in RBIs with two.

Carey Miller took the loss for EC, allowing six runs on five hits through five innings.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF 2-11-08

ECCC hosts Baseball Invitational

From Press Reports

A full weekend of baseball competition is scheduled February 15-17 when East Central Community College serves as host for an invitational tournament at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex on the Decatur campus.

The seven-team community college tournament kicks off Friday when East Central hosts Kaskaskia of Centralia, Illinois, at 11 a.m. Kaskaskia and Baton Rouge battle at 2 p.m. followed by the East Central/Baton Rouge matchup at 5 p.m.

Saturday action begins with Gulf Coast and Baton Rouge at 11 a.m. followed by the Baton Rouge/Northwest contest at 2 p.m. Northwest and Gulf Coast meet at 5 p.m.

Games scheduled Sunday include Northeast and Wallace-Hanceville at 11 a.m. East Central and Wallace-Hanceville at 2 p.m., and East Central and Northeast at 5 p.m.

All games are seven innings except the East Central/Northeast matchup, which is scheduled for nine innings.

Admission is $5 each day. Tourney passes are available for $10.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

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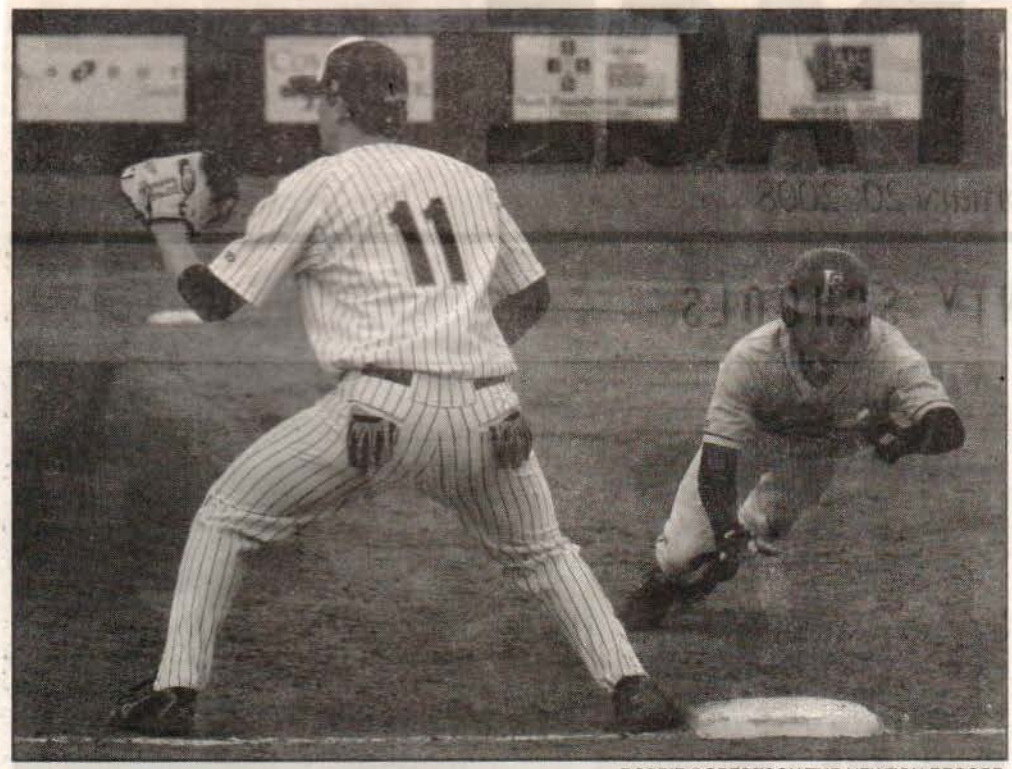
WEEK OF 2-18-08



ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central Community College's Terrell Hendrix dives back into first base last Friday against Kaskaskia.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF 2-18-08

ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central Community College's Terrell Hendrix dives back into first base last Friday against Kaskaskia.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF 2-18-08

Diamond Warriors win three of four

from school reports

East Central Community College split its two Friday matchups in first-round action of the ECCC Invitational this past weekend, falling 5-4 in extra innings to Kaskasia Community College in the opener and defeating Baton Rouge Community College 3-1 in the nightcap.

The Diamond Warriors rallied from a 3-1 deficit by scoring two runs in the bottom of the sixth to knot the score at 3-3, and tied the contest again in the seventh at 4-4, only to have the visitors from Centralia, Ill., score the go-ahead run in the eighth for the one-run victory.

Allen Cheek, a product of Carroll Academy, led the EC offense with a double, single, and two RBIs. Brandon Williams of Newton County High School contributed two singles.

Also recording singles were Terrell Hendrix, Chris Parkman, and Josh Lafferty.

Timothy Maloney took the loss for EC on the mound, allowing one run on no hits through 1 1/3 innings. He fanned two batters and walked two.

Mack Creighton was the starter, allowing three runs on four hits through six innings. He struck out three batters and walked three.

In the second contest, EC rallied from a 1-0 first-inning deficit by scoring one run in the second and two in the third to claim the victory.

Jacob Casey of Union led the EC offense with a double and single.

Other hitters were Hendrix, Parkman, Deon Williams and Brandon Williams, singles each.

Steven Barnes got the win for EC as he went the distance, allowing just one run on three hits through seven innings. He fanned 10 batters and walked three.

EC	**13-15**
Northeast	**8-2**

EC hammered Northeast Mississippi Community College by a combined 28-10 margin Monday in Decatur.

The matchup was originally scheduled for Sunday as part of final round action of the ECCC Invitational, but was postponed due to inclement weather.

Brian Jones was the top offensive performer for EC in the opener with a double, two singles, and three RBIs.

Singles were recorded by Terrell Hendrix, Jacob Casey of Union; Deon Williams, Jack Edmonson, and Newton County's Brandon Williams.

EC scored five runs in the fifth, four in the third, and two in the fifth to pull away.

Jesus Aleman got the win for EC, allowing two earned runs on seven hits through seven innings. He fanned eight batters and walked two.

In the second contest, Casey and ZeEricka Hall of Carthage led EC with two hits each. Casey belted two doubles and Hall contributed two singles.

Clint Coleman added a double and collected three RBI along with teammate Luke Walker of West Lauderdale. Walker also singled as did Deon Williams, Walker, and Kylie Ming.

EC scored four runs in the first inning, six in the second and five in the sixth to record the victory.

Northeast tallied its two runs in the fifth inning.

Gregory Stovall of Neshoba Central picked up the win. Stovall allowed two earned runs on five hits. He struck out seven batters and walked four.

Timothy Maloney and Brian Jones pitched an inning each.

Next up for the Diamond Warriors are doubleheaders at Jeff Davis in Brewton, Ala., today and at LSU-Eunice on Saturday.

EC hosts Mercyhurst Northeast on Wednesday, Feb. 27, in doubleheader action beginning at 3 p.m. at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

The 2008 East Central baseball team

Warriors hope to make another run

Special to The Record

Neal Holliman admits to being somewhat surprised by the success of his 2007 East Central Community College baseball squad, which captured the MACJC State Baseball Championship en route to a 31-23 mark.

Holliman, who also garnered Coach of the Year honors following his initial season as the Diamond Warrior skipper, said there's no doubt last year's team "earned everything they got."

"To be 13-18 at one point in the season and for that group of young men to pull themselves out of that hole and win a championship was a tremendous accomplishment," Holliman stated. "I don't know if I have ever been more proud of a group of men, not because they won the conference championship, but just because they bought into what we were trying to do and all got on the same page."

Holliman

He further stated, "Once we got down to the core group that was willing to accept and adopt everything we were trying to do, that team 'exploded' and became very hard to beat, due in large part to their great character."

Holliman is obviously anticipating another successful season, but his main objective in 2008 is for his Diamond Warriors to perform to the best of their ability.

"The goal for this year's team is the same as it will always be, that is to maximize our potential," he stated. "Sure, we want to win a conference and regional championship and advance to the (NJCAA) World Series to compete for a national title, but you never know what the year will hold."

"And if we maximize our potential and fail to reach the conference tournament, we will still have something to be very proud of," he continued. "But if we fail to reach our maximum potential and win the conference tournament, we have under achieved."

Several players return from last year's championship squad that Holliman hopes will help the Diamond Warriors "maximize" their potential in 2008.

See **RUN**, Page 25

WEEK OF 2-25-08

ECCC drops two at LSU-E

It didn't take the LSU-Eunice Bengals long to rebound from their first loss of the season as they swept the East Central Community College Warriors 4-3, 5-1 Saturday at Eunice, La.

from combined reports

EC fell to 7-6 with the two losses.

The Bengals, 8-1, pulled out in front early in the first game when Delta Cleary scored off a Kellen Bozeman single to center field.

LSUE continued to pad its lead, adding runs in the third and fifth innings.

In the fifth, it was Bozeman and Cleary doing the work again for the Bengals. Cleary singled and drove in Chase Blanchard.

Continued on 4B...
See ECCC...

ECCC...

Continued from 3B...

He then stole second and third and scored off a Bozeman sacrifice fly to center field, giving LSUE a 4-0 lead.

The Warriors gave the Bengals a scare in the top of the eighth, scoring three runs. Eric Ortego replaced Corey Lopez on the pitcher's mound and struck out the final Warrior batter to stop the Warriors' comeback effort. Ortego picked up a save and Lopez was credited with the win.

Greg Stovall took the loss for EC, allowing six hits and four runs in 4 2/3 innings.

Brian Jones led the Warriors at the plate, going 2-for-4 with a double. Josh Lafferty added a double.

In game two, LSUE again took an early lead, scoring runs in the first four innings.

In the first inning, Cleary scored off a Matt Creel single and in the second, Chase Blanchard hit a double to center field, driving in Boomer Blanchard. The Bengals were up 2-0.

In the third inning, the Warriors threatened, but stranded runners in scoring position.

LSUE added another run on the bottom of the inning when Creel scored off a double to left field by Bozeman.

The Bengals added two runs in the fourth off a Cleary single, giving LSUE a 5-0 lead.

East Central, picked up a run in the top of the sixth, but ended the frame with the bases loaded.

Jesus Aleman took the loss, giving up seven hits in five innings.

Chris Parkman and Deon Williams both had a hit for the Warriors.

Cleary finished the doubleheader 3-for-6 with three runs and three RBI for the Bengals. Boomer Blanchard was 4-for-6, while Kellen Bozeman was 3-for-5 with three RBI.

EC returns to action today when the Warriors host the Saints of Mercyhurst North East in a doubleheader beginning at 3 p.m. The Pennsylvania team is on a tour of Mississippi.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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IMPACT _____

WEEK OF 2-25-08

BUNDLED UP

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

Andrea Rash, left, and Joy Hayes, students at East Central Community College, try to keep warm as they bundle up in coats and blankets during a doubleheader baseball game in Decatur Wednesday. The Warriors won both contests. Details, page B4.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

East Central, EMCC both pull

from staff reports

Homestanding East Central Community College took advantage of a little wildness by the visiting team to sweep a doubleheader from Mercyhurst Northeast Wednesday afternoon in Decatur.

The Warriors won 12-0 in the opener, then took a 5-0 win in the nightcap to improve to 9-6 on the season.

In Game 1, East Central's Steven Barnes (2-0) struck out five and gave up just three hits in five innings of work. He walked no one.

Offensively, the Warriors got a double and four RBIs from Deon Williams and a triple and two RBIs from Josh Lafferty.

In the second game, East Central scored four times in the bottom of the first inning and coasted to another shutout win.

Jared Clark (2-0) went five innings on the hill to get the win, striking out six and giving up two hits. Offensively, Carey Miller doubled and drove in two runs to lead EC.

The Warriors go to Itawamba Saturday.

— *Rocky Higginbotham*

East Mississippi	**19-6**
Southwest Tennessee	**15-1**

The Lions improved to 10-2 on the season with a doubleheader sweep Wednesday night in Scooba, winning a 19-15 slugfest in the opener and then taking a 6-1 win in the nightcap.

EMCC will be back in action Saturday at Crawley Ridge, Ark.

Wednesday, the Lions scored 11 times in the bottom of the first inning and three times in the second — but were still up just 14-10 before holding on.

Jonathan Wray, the third of six EMCC pitchers, got the win in relief to move to 4-0 on the year.

At the plate, Ben Fleming and Tyler Weston each hit two home runs to lead Scooba Tech. Fleming was 3-for-5 with two dingers, a double and five RBIs, while Weston was 3-for-5 with two homers and four RBIs.

Brock Mosley went 2-for-4 with a solo home run, Wayne Presley had two hits and three RBIs and Nathan Peden was 2-for-3 with one RBI.

In Game 2, EMCC got a solid effort on the mound from Golden Grasse (1-1) to complete the sweep. Grasse tossed a complete-game win, striking out five, walking one and allowing just four hits.

Fleming was 2-for-3 with a double and two RBIs to lead EMCC, which scored three times each in the third and fourth innings. Weston added one hit and two RBIs.

— *Rocky Higginbotham*

PREP BASEBALL

Lake	**11**
Philadelphia	**4**

Colton Mitchell struck out 17 hitters on the mound and provided the big blow for Lake at the plate to lead the Hornets in a Division 5-2A matchup at Burnside Park.

Mitchell (1-1) went all seven innings on the hill for the Hornets, striking out 17 and scattering five hits. At the plate, he was 2-for-5 with a three-run homer, a double and four RBIs.

Marcus Ricks added a single, double and an RBI for Lake, while David Murray was 2-for-4 with a double; Cody Taylor was 2-for-5 with two RBIs; and Blake Luke went 2-for-2.

Georgio Grace was 2-for-3 with a double and Cooper Jordan took the loss for Philadelphia, which dropped to 0-2 in division play.

Lake, 6-1 overall and 2-0 in the division, hosts Newton Saturday.

— *Rocky Higginbotham*

PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

ALL-OUT EFFORT

East Central Community College's Clint Coleman makes a diving attempt on a blooper in shallow right field Wednesday in a game against Mercyhurst Northeast in Decatur.

LATE PREP BASEBALL

Central Academy	**4**
Russell Christian	**3**

The homestanding Vikings pushed across the winning run in the bottom of the eighth inning to take a victory in a marathon season-opener for both squads.

Central scored twice in the third and once in the fifth for a 3-0 lead, then Russell pushed across three runs in the sixth to tie the contest. After one run was walked in, Austin Nolan drove in a pair of runs for RCA.

Ross Moore was the hard-luck loser on the hill, despite throwing all eight innings on a frigid night and striking out 13 in the process. He allowed four hits.

The Warriors will return to action Monday at Lamar Christian School, while Central pays a visit to Calvary Christian School today at Q.V. Sykes Park.

— *Rocky Higginbotham*

JUCO SOFTBALL

Copiah-Lincoln	**4-6**
East Central	**3-0**

The Lady Warriors dropped a pair of contests at Wesson Wednesday afternoon, falling 4-3 in the opener and 6-0 in the nightcap.

In the first game, the homestanding Lady Wolves scored twice each in the fourth and fifth innings and then held off East Central.

Rebecca Bailey fanned 10 in a complete-game effort to get the win, while Codee Russell took the complete-game loss for ECCC.

Sondreia Hillie and Shenique Brass both had two hits for East Central, and both

off sweeps

scored a run. Laura Smith had one hit, one run and two RBIs, Emily Thrash had one hit and one RBI and Lindsey Stevens also had a hit.

In Game 2, Co-Lin's Kayla Croche allowed just three hits and struck out six in five innings of work, combining with Rebecca Rousseau on the shutout.

Thrash, Hillie and Kristen Pillsbury had the only hits for East Central, while Leah Dennis was the losing pitcher. Dennis gave up four earned runs in six innings of work.

ECCC, 3-5, hosts Mississippi Delta today.

— Rocky Higginbotham

WEEK OF 3-2-08

EC Diamond Warriors show no 'mercy' on Mercyhurst

– From school reports

East Central Community College's Diamond Warriors took a pair of contests from visiting Mercyhurst Northeast Wednesday, cruising 12-0 in the opening contest and completing the doubleheader sweep with a 5-0 decision in the nightcap.

East Central, which improved to 9-6 overall, needed just three hits to win the opener – a five-inning affair due to the 10-run rule.

Hits were recorded by Josh Lafferty of Quitman, triple; and Jacob Casey of Union and Deon Williams, a product of Tuscaloosa County High School, singles each. Williams led in RBIs with four and scored two runs. Casey and Lafferty were credited with two RBIs each. Casey also scored three runs as did Chris Parkman of Raleigh.

Steven Barnes was the winning pitcher, allowing just three hits through five scoreless innings. He fanned five batters. Barnes is a product of Covington High School in Folson, La.

The visitors committed seven errors in the loss.

In the second game, the Diamond Warriors jumped out to a 4-0 first-inning lead and added a single run in the sixth to post the victory.

EC sluggers were Carey Miller of Louisville, double; and Brian Jones, a product of Allen County (Ky.) High School, and Casey, singles each. Miller also had two RBIs.

Jared Clark of Brandon got the win for EC on the mound. Clark hurled five scoreless innings, allowing just two hits. He fanned six batters and walked two. Robert Westbrook, a product of Newton County High School, pitched the final two innings, allowing just one hit. He struck out two batters and walked one.

East Central travels to Itawamba Community College on Saturday, March 1 for a doubleheader getting underway at 2 p.m. on the Fulton campus. Road games also scheduled at Northwest Mississippi Community College in Senatobia on Tuesday, March 4 and at Pearl River Community College in Poplarville on Saturday, March 8.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF 3-9-08

ECCC sweeps two at N'west

A five-run first inning gave East Central Community College's baseball team all the runs it needed for an 8-4 win over Northwest Mississippi Community College in the first game of a Wednesday doubleheader in Senatobia.

The Diamond Warriors completed the sweep by pounding the Diamond Rangers 12-2 in the nightcap.

East Central, which improved to 12-7 following the victories, was led offensively in the opener by Josh Lafferty of Quitman and Clint Coleman of Louisville. Lafferty belted a three-run homer in the first-inning, and Coleman led in hits with a double and single. Coleman was also credited with an RBI. Jacob Casey of Union also doubled.

Steven Barnes was the winning pitcher for EC, allowing three earned runs on seven hits through four and two-thirds innings. He fanned five batters and walked two.

In the second game, EC scored four runs in the second inning and five in the third in coasting to the easy win, which was called after five innings due to the 10-run rule.

Terrell Hendrix, a product of East Oktibbeha High School in Starkville, was the top offensive performer with a home run and two singles. He also collected five RBIs and scored three runs.

Casey also homered, had three RBIs and scored twice. Other hitters were Parkman, two singles; Jones and Williams, doubles each; and Robert Westbrook, a product of Newton County High School, and Lafferty, singles each. Parkman also had two RBIs and Williams knocked in a run.

Timothy Maloney of Northeast Lauderdale went the distance on the mound for EC, allowing just two earned runs on two hits. He fanned two batters and walked one.

ECCC was scheduled to travel to Pearl River Community College for a pair of games on Saturday, one against the hosting Wildcats and one seven-inning game against Alabama Southern.

ECCC will play host to Pearl River Thursday at 3 p.m.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON

OTHER

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER

IMPACT

WEEK OF 3-9-08

Diamond Warriors put the broom to Northwest with 8-4, 12-2 sweep

from school reports

East Central Community College went 2-2 in last week's baseball action, sweeping Northwest Mississippi before losing single games to Pearl River and Alabama Southern.

EC, 12-9, returns to action on Thursday when the Warriors host Pearl River in a 3 p.m. doubleheader.

EC	8-12
Northwest	4-2

A five-run first inning gave EC all the runs it needed in the opener of last Wednesday's doubleheader at Senatobia.

EC completed the sweep with a 12-2 win in the nightcap.

EC, which improved to 12-7, was led offensively in the opener by Josh Lafferty and Clint Coleman. Lafferty belted a three-run homer in the first inning and Coleman had a double and single.

Jacob Casey of Union doubled, while singles were recorded by Brian Jones, Chris Parkman, and Deon Williams.

Steven Barnes was the winning pitcher, allowing three earned runs on seven hits through 4 2/3 innings. Jared Clark hurled the final 2 2/3 innings.

In the second game, EC scored four runs in the second inning and five more in the third in coasting to the five-inning win.

Terrell Hendrix was the top offensive performer with

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a home run and two singles. He also collected five RBIs and scored three runs.

Casey also homered, had three RBIs, and scored twice. Other hitters were Parkman with two singles and Jones and Williams, each with a double.

Timothy Maloney went the distance on the mound for EC, allowing just two earned runs on two hits.

Pearl River	7
EC	2

Clint Coleman and Jack Edmondson both had two hits for EC in Saturday's loss at Poplarville.

Jesus Aleman took the loss. He struck out six in 5 2/3 innings.

Alabama Southern	5
EC	0

The Warriors fell to 12-9 despite getting three hits from Clint Coleman. Josh Lafferty had a single.

Brian Jones was tagged with the loss.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF 3/17

EC snaps skid, sweeps PRCC

East Central Community College's baseball team snapped a four-game skid by taking a pair of contests from Pearl River Community College Thursday, March 13 at the Clark/Gay Complex in Decatur.

The Diamond Warriors, who improved to 14-11 following the sweep during spring break, rallied for a 5-3 win in the opener and held on for a 5-1 decision in the nightcap.

Clint Coleman of Louisville, Brandon Williams of Newton County and Luke Walker of West Lauderdale each had two hits to lead the Diamond Warrior offense. ZeEricka Hall of Carthage belted a triple and Brian Jones, a product of Allen County High School in Adolphus, Ky., and Jack Edmonson of Nanih Waiya had singles each.

EC scored all five runs in the fifth inning, erasing a 2-0 Pearl River advantage. The Wildcats scored their other run in the sixth inning.

Timothy Maloney of Northeast Lauderdale went the distance for EC in picking up the win. Maloney allowed three runs on six hits. He fanned two batters and walked one.

In the second contest, Josh Lafferty of Quitman homered and singled and Coleman collected two singles to lead EC batters. Jacob Casey of Union pounded a double and Chris Parkman, a product of Raleigh High School, had a single.

East Central jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the second inning and added runs in the fifth and sixth innings to clinch the win. Pearl River's lone run came in the fifth inning.

Jesus Aleman of Belle Glade, Fla., was the winning pitcher, allowing just one run on one hit through five innings. Aleman fanned four batters and walked one.

Swept by Northeast

The Diamond Warriors dropped a doubleheader to Northeast Mississippi Community College in Booneville on March 11, falling 4-2 in the first game and 10-0 in the second contest.

In the first game, EC took a 2-0 lead into the bottom of the third when the Diamond Tigers tied the contest at 2-2. The home team added two runs in the fourth inning and held on for the victory.

EC hitters were Jones, three singles; and Parkman, Casey and Edmondson, singles each. Jones also collected two RBIs.

Starter Robert Westbrook of Newton County took the loss for EC on the mound. Westbrook allowed two earned runs on five hits through five innings. He fanned four batters and walked two.

In the nightcap, Parkman led the EC offense with two singles. Also recording singles were Coleman, Jones, Williams and Casey.

Northeast held a 1-0 lead going into the fifth inning when the Diamond Tigers tallied four runs. The home team added five runs in the sixth inning and the game was called due to the 10-run rule.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON

OTHER

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

IMPACT

WEEK OF 3/17

In the opener, a polar opposite from the nightcap, the two teams combined for 20 hits and ECCC rallied from an 8-3 deficit to take a 10-9 win.

MCC out-hit East Central 11-9 in game one, but seven walks from Eagle pitching and three errors would allow East Central the chance to come away with a win.

The Eagles appeared to be in control throughout the early stages, as former West Lauderdale standout Tyler Vick connected on a pair of homers in consecutive innings to give MCC an 8-3 lead.

In the fourth inning, Vick lined a 1-strike pitch from ECCC's Jesus Alaman over the centerfield wall for a two-run shot before delivering a three-run blast in the top of the fifth. This one, a towering shot over the leftfield wall, gave MCC a commanding five-run lead.

Trailing 8-3, the Warriors immediately responded with a five-run fifth inning. Against MCC reliever Brent Gough, the Warriors began to fight back when Brian Jones doubled in a pair of runs to cut the lead to 8-5, setting the stage for a game-tying, three-run home run off the bat of left-fielder Josh Lafferty which capped the comeback.

"That was the most important inning of the day," Holliman said. "They went up big on us and we came right back with a five-spot. I knew we had to answer in that inning to give ourselves a chance, I just didn't know we'd score five like that."

After MCC's Shannon Steed laced a solo home run in the top of the sixth, ECCC once again rallied, scoring two sixth inning runs to regain the lead.

After Clint Coleman singled to lead off the inning, catcher Chris Parkman delivered an RBI single to tie the score. One batter later, courtesy runner Allen Cheek took off on a steal attempt to second base, allowing Ze'Ericka Hall to score the go-ahead run from third.

When Jones came on in relief and shut the door with a 1-2-3 seventh inning, the Warriors had an unlikely win.

"That was big," Holliman added. "When you look back on these games, they'll just be two out of 16 conference games, but the way we won today really says a lot."

Offensively, Vick led the way with two hits and five RBIs for MCC while Scott Mosely added three singles.

For East Central, Lafferty, Coleman and Parkman had two hits apiece.

See **Warriors**
Page B3

RUNDOWN

East Central Community College's Allen Cheek gets caught in a rundown during the sixth inning of the first game in Decatur while a teammate scores the winning run before Cheek is tagged out by Meridian Community College's Jarrod Parks. The Warriors won 10-9 and swept the doubleheader.

PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

LEAPFROG

Meridian Community College's Josh Demoney leaps over East Central Community College's Jack Edmondson after tagging him out along the first base line after a sacrifice bunt Tuesday afternoon.

Warriors

From Page B1

While the result in game two was the same, the story was much different.

With Stovall and MCC starter Tyler McMullen locked in a pitchers' duel, the Warriors struck for the only two runs of the game in the bottom of the first inning.

McMullen, a freshman righty from Southeast Lauderdale who reverse transferred from Ole Miss — allowed just five hits and struck out six in six innings, allowed a double from Warrior DH Brandon Williams and a triple from Hall to fall behind 1-0 in the first. Jones pushed the lead to 2-0 with an RBI single that scored Hall.

For his part, Stovall ran into trouble just once, allowing runners to reach first and third in the top of the first before escape without any damage.

"When he got out of the first with no runs, that was huge for our confidence," Holliman added.

Stovall dominated the Eagle bats for more than six innings before handing off to Jones, who retired the final two batters of the game for his second save of the day.

Offensively, Hall had a pair of hits for ECCC.

"It's always big to beat a quality team like Meridian, but we had 14 more conference games to go," Holliman said.

MCC will return home to host Gulf Coast Friday while East Central will host Jones County.

APPEARED

CARTHAGINIAN

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON

OTHER

Warriors hold serve

Stovall's shutout in Game 2 completes sweep for ECCC

By Brandon Walker
assistant sports editor

DECATUR — The conditions were daunting.

Taking the mound in game two of a doubleheader Tuesday afternoon, East Central starting pitcher Gregory Stovall had to notice the circumstances.

With winds gusting up to 30 mph and blowing in the direction of left field, homestanding East Central Community College and visiting Meridian had just combined for four home runs in a 10-9 slugfest won by the Warriors in the first game of a doubleheader.

With favorable hitting conditions, the deck seemed stacked against Stovall as he prepared to face potent Eagles' lineup?

Stovall's response? No problem.

Stovall, a sophomore lefty from Neshoba Central High School, turned in a marvelous performance, allowing just three hits in 6.1 innings of shutout baseball, which proved to be just enough to stake East Central to a 2-0 win and a sweep of rival MCC.

"He was tremendous today," remarked ECCC head coach Neal Holliman, who watched his team improve to 16-11 overall and 2-0 in MACJC Central Division play. "He is one of the guys we depend on to give us quality innings every time he goes out there. He has struggled at times, but he gave us exactly what we needed today."

Stovall's shutout capped an intense pair of games between the Eagles and Warriors.

PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

WEEK OF March 24

EC Diamond Warriors get sweep, division lead

East Central Community College's baseball team improved to 18-11 following sweeps of Jones County Junior College and Meridian Community College squads last week.

The Diamond Warriors posted 10-7 and 6-5 decisions over Jones on Friday after taking a pair of contests (10-9, 2-0) from division rival Meridian on Tuesday, March 18. East Central moved atop the MACJC Central Division following the wins over MCC.

In the first game with the Bobcats, Clint Coleman of Louisville led the EC offense with three singles. Kylie Ming, also of Louisville, had two singles and collected two RBIs. ZeEricka Hall of Carthage belted a triple.

Southpaw Timothy Maloney of Northeast Lauderdale got the win for EC, allowing one earned run on four hits through three and one-third innings. He fanned two batters.

Starter Robert Westbrook, a right-hander from Newton County High School, pitched five and two-thirds innings, allowing two earned runs on five hits. He fanned six batters and walked three.

EC led 4-1 after three innings and but trailed 5-4 going into the fifth. The Diamond Warriors tied the contest at 5-5 in their frame of the inning only to have Jones take a 6-5 advantage in the sixth. EC would take the lead for good in the bottom of the sixth at 7-6, and added two runs in the seventh and one in the eight to preserve the win.

In the second contest, Parkman singled in Hall for the winning run to complete the sweep. Coleman homered and Jones had three singles to lead the offense. Parkman and Jack Edmondson of Nanih Waiya had two singles each and Deon Williams belted a triple.

Jones was credited with the win for EC on the mound. The right-hander allowed two hits and no runs through one and two-thirds innings. He fanned one batter and walked one. Right-hander Carey Miller of Louisville hurled one inning, allowing four earned runs on two hits.

He walked one batter. Starter Steven Barnes went four and one-third innings, allowing one earned run on three hits. He fanned seven batters and walked two. Barnes is a product of Covington High School in Folson, La.

ECCC sweeps MCC for division lead

Josh Lafferty's three-run homer helped propel East Central Community College's Diamond Warriors to a 10-9 win over Meridian Community College in the first game, and southpaw Gregory Stovall shut down the Eagle offense with a 2-0 decision in the second contest.

With the doubleheader sweep, East Central improved to 16-11 overall and 2-0 in league play, while Meridian slipped to 10-12 and 0-2.

Lafferty's blast tied the contest at 8-8 and capped a five-run fifth inning, erasing an 8-3 Meridian advantage. Brian Jones, a product of Allen County High School in Adolphus, Ky., had earlier doubled in a pair of runs setting the stage for Lafferty's game-tying dinger, which came on a 3-0 count. Lafferty is a product of Quitman High School.

"That was the most important inning of the day," remarked second-year ECCC head coach Neal Holliman of the five-run, fifth stanza. "They went up big on us and we came back with a five-spot. I knew we had to answer in that inning to give ourselves a chance, I just didn't know we'd score five like that."

Meridian regained the lead at 9-8 on a sixth-inning solo shot by Shannon Steed, but the Diamond Warriors scored twice in the bottom of the inning and held on for the win.

Jones sealed the victory by pitching a scoreless seventh inning in relief.

In addition to his three-run homer, Lafferty singled and finished with four RBIs to lead the offense. Other hitters were Coleman and Parkman, two singles each; Jones and Jacob Casey of Union, doubles each. Tyler Vick led MCC with two homers and five RBIs.

Robert Westbrook was the winning pitcher for EC, allowing one earned runs on two hits in one inning of relief. Westbrook is a product of Newton County High School. Jones fanned one batter and allowed no hits to earn the save. Starter Jesus Aleman of Belle Glade, Fla., allowed six earned runs on nine hits through five innings. He fanned three batters.

In the second contest, EC got all the runs it needed in the first inning thanks to

See ECCC, page 2B

ECCC

Continued from page 1B

Stovall's standout performance on the mound. The first run came when Williams doubled and later scored on a triple by Hall. Hall later crossed the plate on a single by Jones.

But the key to victory in the second contest was the pitching performance by the southpaw Stovall, who fanned eight MCC batters and allowed just three hits through six and one-thirds innings. He also allowed four walks.

"He was tremendous today," Holliman said of Stovall after the sweep. "He is one of the guys we depend on to give us quality innings every time he goes out there. He has struggled at times, but he gave us exactly what we needed today."

Jones finished the game on the mound and fanned one batter.

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNA
SPIRIT OF MORTON
THE PHILADELPHIAN

3/31

Warriors split with Bevill State, Hinds

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

The East Central Community College Warriors split a pair of doubleheaders in last week's baseball action.

EC, 20-13 overall, entered the week 3-1 in the MACJC Central Division and tied with Holmes for first place. They were followed by Hinds at 1-1, Meridian at 1-3, and East Mississippi at 0-2.

The Warriors go to Goodman Saturday to take on Holmes Community College in a Central Division doubleheader beginning at 2 p.m. EC hosts East Mississippi Community College in a division doubleheader in Decatur on April 9.

Bevill State	**3-4**
East Central	**2-5**

The Warriors split a pair of one-run decisions with visiting Bevill State on March 25 as their record went to 19-12.

In the opener, EC's Carey Miller took the loss while Jacob Casey went 2-for-3 at the plate with a home run. Josh Lafferty added a two-run single for the Warriors.

In the second game, Gregory Stovall struck out seven to earn his third win of the year for EC.

Jack Edmonson went 2-for-2, while Ze'Ericka Hall doubled. Brian Jones had two RBI.

East Central	**13-3**
Hinds	**12-9**

The Warriors came away with a split in Saturday's Central Division doubleheader at Decatur after rallying for a 13-12 win in the opener.

EC trailed 12-10 going into the bottom of the seventh inning before scoring three times to take the win.

Trailing 4-3, the Warriors scored four runs in the bottom of the third to take a 7-4 lead.

Hinds answered with six runs in the top of the fourth to go up 10-7.

After EC drew even at 10-10 with three runs in the fifth, the Eagles scored twice in the top of the sixth.

Warrior reliever Brian Jones got the win.

Jones and Deon Williams both hit home runs for the Warriors with Terrell Hendrix and Ze'Ericka Hall each getting a triple.

Brandon Martin (1-2) took the loss for the Eagles.

Hinds got a home run apiece from Josh Gordon and Eric Douglas. Mark Buchanan and Jonathon Ettinger both had a double.

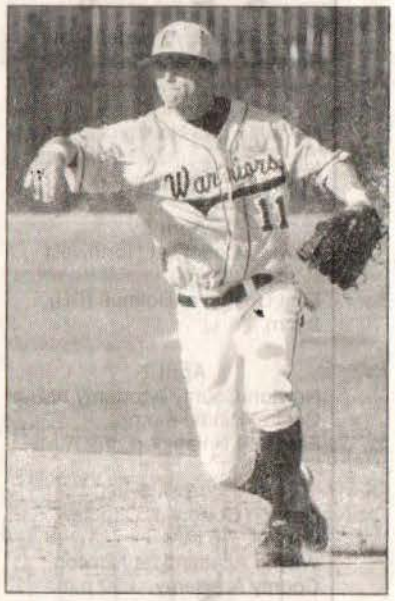
In the second game, Hinds took control early as the Eagles scored seven times in the top of the second inning.

Gordon and Douglas again homered for Hinds, 17-12.

Josh Lafferty had a pair of triples for the Warriors.

Mack Creighton took the loss for EC, 20-13.

Aryo Fleming (7-1) got the win.



ECCC shortstop Jacob Casey of Union throws to first base.
EC photo

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WEEK OF April 7, 2008

Aleman tosses EC to sweep of Holmes

Sophomore right-hander Jesus Aleman allowed just one hit during a complete-game performance in helping the East Central Community College Diamond Warriors claim a sweep of MACJC Central Division foe Holmes Community College Monday in Goodman.

Aleman, a University of West Alabama transfer and resident of Belle Glade, Fla., fanned 11 Bulldogs and allowed just one unearned run in ECCC's 4-1 victory over Holmes, which followed a 14-3 blowout in the first game.

With the sweep, EC improved to 22-15 overall and 5-1 in league play.

Brian Jones, a product of Allen County High School in Adolphus, Ky., led the EC offense in the nightcap by going two-for-three at the plate. Chris Parkman, a UWA transfer and Raleigh High School product, and Robert Westbrook of Newton County High School each had RBI doubles. Josh Lafferty of Quitman also knocked in a run for EC.

In the opener, the EC offense erupted for five runs in the first inning and six in the second in cruising to the easy victory.

Top sluggers were Deon Williams, who went two-for-three with three RBIs; Jones, two-for-four with two RBIs; and Jacob Casey of Union, who also had two hits. Williams is a product of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County High School.

Freshman right-hander Steven Barnes got the win for EC, improving to 4-0 on the season. Barnes is a product of Covington (La.) High School.

East Central continues division competition Wednesday by hosting East Mississippi Community College in a critical series beginning at 3 p.m. at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex. Two seven-inning games are scheduled.

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WEEK OF April 14, 2008

Warriors hold lead in division

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

The MACJC Central Division leading Diamond Warriors of East Central Community College maintained first place with a pair of doubleheader splits in last week's action.

EC split twinbills with East Mississippi Community College and Meridian Community College to run its overall record to 24-17 and its division mark to 7-3.

The Warriors host Copiah-Lincoln Community College on Saturday and Holmes Community College on April 23.

MACJC Central Division
Through April 14

East Central	7-3
Hinds	4-4
Meridian	5-5
Holmes	5-5
East Miss.	3-7

East Mississippi	3-3
East Central	2-4

Both teams came away with one-run wins in last Wednesday's games at Decatur.

In the opener, the Warriors jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the first inning thanks to an RBI single by Brian Jones and a sacrifice fly by Chris Parkman.

EMCC took advantage of a throwing error by the Warriors to put up three runs in the top of the fifth inning.

EC had just three hits — a single apiece by Jones, Jacob Casey of Union, and Jacob Edmondson.

EC starter Mack Creighton took the loss despite allowing only three hits in four innings. He struck out four.

Jones pitched the final three frames, allowing two hits to go with five strikeouts.

All three Lions' runs were unearned.

In the nightcap, EC scored the go-ahead run in the sixth inning when Luke Walker tallied from third on a throwing

Continued on 4B...

Hold...

Continued from 3B...

error. He had singled and advanced to second on a sacrifice bunt by ZeEricka Hall. Walker advanced to third on a wild pitch.

EC reliever Timothy Maloney sat the Lions down in order in the top of the seventh to secure the victory.

Robert Westbrook of Newton County got the win, giving up only one earned run and one hit in two innings of relief. Gregory Stovall tossed the first four frames, allowing one earned run on four hits.

EC had eight hits with Deon Williams getting a single and a double. Casey, Walker, Hall, Terrell Hendrix, Josh Lafferty, and Kylie Ming each had a single.

East Central	7-5
Meridian	6-12

The Warriors also came away with a split Saturday at Meridian after taking an extra-inning win in the opener.

In the opener, EC scored two runs in the top of the first as Jacob Casey scored on a double by Deon Williams, who later came home on a single by Brian Jones.

After MCC went up 4-2 following a three-run first inning, Jones launched a two-run blast to tie the game at 4-4 in the top of the third.

The Warriors added single runs in the fourth and fifth innings to take a 6-4 lead only to have MCC tie the contest in the seventh on a solo homer by Tyler Koelling, sending the game into extra innings.

In the top of the ninth, EC took the lead for good when Terrell Hendrix drove in Clint Coleman with the game-winning run.

In the second game, the Eagles pounded 12 hits and put up a dozen runs in earning the split. MCC took control early as the Eagles scored three runs in the third inning and tacked on four more in the fourth.

Drew Snider went 3-for-4 and drove in three runs to lead MCC.

Scott Mosely also had three hits for the Eagles and plated five runs with a double and a triple.

With the split, EC's record went to 7-3 in the division and 24-17 overall, while MCC's mark went to 5-5 and 23-18.

Along with a previous sweep of MCC at Decatur, the Warriors hold a 3-1 series advantage over the Eagles this spring.

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HE'S IN THERE

East Central Community College's Deon Williams scores as he collides at the plate with Meridian Community College's Wesley Thigpen during the first game of a doubleheader Saturday.

Eagles, Warriors split doubleheader

By John Few
staff writer

Needing two wins to forge a tie atop the MACJC Central Division standings, the Meridian Community College Eagles instead came up a run short after losing a 7-6, extra inning affair in game one of a doubleheader Saturday. The Eagles would bounce back to claim a 12-5 win in game two.

In game one, East Central opened up with two runs in the top of the first as second baseman Jacob Casey scored on a double by Dion Williams, who then scored on a single by Brian Jones.

MCC answered back, indicating the back-and-forth tug-of-war that would characterize the rest of the game. Tyler Koelling opened the bottom of the first inning with a home run to left. Wesley Thigpen later scored Drew Snider with a sacrifice fly, tying the game at 2-2. Scott Mosely would single to score Jarrod Parks to round out MCC's three-run first inning.

After posting no runs in the second, ECCC gave up one run, allowing Shannon Steed to score off a single by Koelling for MCC.

The Warriors breathed a sigh of relief in the third inning by tying the game, 4-4, after Jones hit a two-run home run, bringing in Dion Williams.

East Central then added two runs to post a two-run lead by the bottom of the sixth inning. Casey added a run in the fourth inning, and Josh Lafferty added one in the fifth. The Eagles responded by tying the game 6-6 over the next two innings. MCC added a run i the bottom of the sixth whe Parks scored on a single b former West Lauderdale standou Tyler Vick. Trailing 6-5 headin into the bottom of the seventh MC drew even on a solo home ru off the bat of Koelling.

The game remain deadlocke at 6-6 until the top of the ninth when ECCC would cap the con test when shortstop Terrell Her drix was able to deliver Clin

See **MCC**
Page C6

MCC 12
East Central 5

MCC's bats dominated the second game asthe Eagles collected 12 runs on 12 hits to earn a 12-5 win.

Snider, Parks, and Mosely singled, doubled and tripled in succession in the bottom of the third as the Eagles scored three in the third and four in the fourth to take control.

Coleman, Williams, Casey and Jones were able to add runs to the scoreboard for ECCC.

Overall, Snider ended the day with a 3-for-4 performance, driving in three runs along the way.

For his part, Mosely collected three hits, including a double and a triple to drive in a game-high five runs.

The Warriors moved to 25-17 for the season and maintained their central division lead with a 7-3 record.

MCC now has a 23-18 record for the year and is 5-5 in division play.

WEEK OF April 14, 2008

ECCC remains atop division after split with Meridian

East Central Community College's baseball team remains atop the MACJC Central Division standings following a doubleheader split with Meridian Community College Saturday in Meridian.

The defending state champion Diamond Warriors clipped the Eagles 7-6 in extra innings in the first game and fell 12-5 in the nightcap.

Following the split, East Central's record stood at 25-17 overall and 7-3 in league play under second-year head coach Neal Holliman.

In the first game, EC scored two runs in the top of the first as Jacob Casey of Union scored on a double by Deon Williams of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County, who later tallied on a single by Brian Jones, a product of Allen County High School in Adolphus, Ky.

MCC would later take a 4-2 lead but the Warriors rallied to tie the contest in the third inning on Jones' two-run homer.

East Central added runs in the fourth and fifth innings to take a 6-4 lead only to have MCC tie the contest in the seventh, sending the game into extra innings. EC took the lead for good in the ninth inning when Terrell Hendrix, a product of East Oktibbeha County High School drove in Clint Coleman of Louisville for the margin of victory.

In the second game, the Eagles pounded 12 hits in earning the split.

MCC's record stood at 23-18 and 5-5 following the doubleheader.

East Central continues division action by traveling to Hinds Community College on Tuesday, April 15. The Diamond Warriors will honor sophomore players during Saturday's doubleheader with Copiah-Lincoln Community College, which gets under way at 3 p.m. at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex. The Diamond Warriors host division foe Holmes Community College beginning at 3 p.m. Wednesday, April 23.

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WEEK OF April 14, 2008

ECCC Diamond Warriors remain atop division race

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WEEK OF April 21, 2008

AT EAST CENTRAL

Warriors split with Co-Lin, key division games ahead

It was "Sophomore Recognition Day" Saturday for the defending state champion East Central Community College Diamond Warriors who took a break from MACJC Central Division competition to take on South Division member Copiah-Lincoln Community College at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex on the Decatur campus.

East Central won the first game by a 4-2 margin but fell 10-1 in the nightcap.

The Diamond Warriors are 25-[illegible] overall and 7-5 in league play with division doubleheaders remaining with visiting Holmes Community College beginning at 3 p.m. Wednesday and against East Mississippi Community College Saturday starting at 2 p.m. on the Scooba campus.

East Central is in a battle for a playoff spot along with Meridian Community College, which sports a 9-5 record with two division games remaining and Hinds Community College, whose division marks is the same as EC's at 7-5. Hinds has four division games left.

The top two teams in each division qualify for the MACJC State Tournament scheduled May 1-4. The North Division winner is designated as host for this year's tournament.

East Central recognized sophomore players prior to the first contest with Co-Lin. Honorees and their respective hometowns include pitcher Jesus Aleman, Belle Glade, Florida; pitcher Gregory Stovall, Philadelphia; middle infielder Jacob Casey and manager Justin Joyner, both of Union; pitcher Mack Creighton and outfielder/infielder Josh Lafferty, both of Quitman; pitcher/utility player Terrell Hendrix, Starkville; pitcher/middle infielder Brian Jones, Adolphus, Ky; catcher Chris Parkman, Pulaski; pitcher Robert Westbrook, Decatur; and infielder/outfielder Deon Williams, Northport, Ala.

ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central's Jack Edmonson slides into second base on a successful stolen base attempt in the first game of a doubleheader against Co-Lin on Saturday.

In the win over Co-Lin, EC scored one run in the first inning and three in third. Co-Lin tallied its two runs in the sixth inning.

Jack Edmondson of Louisville belted two singles and Casey and Parkman had doubles each to lead the offense. Singles each were recorded by Jones, ZeErica Hall of Carthage and Clint Coleman of Louisville. Parkman led in RBIs with two. Casey and Jones knocked in a run apiece.

Creighton was the winning pitcher for EC on the mound. He pitched four and two-thirds scoreless innings and allowed just one hit. Creighton fanned eight batters and walked four.

Carey Miller of Louisville pitched one and one-third innings, allowing two earned runs on three hits. He fanned two batters. Hendrix hurled the final inning and allowed one hit. He fanned two batters.

In the loss to Co-Lin, EC scored two runs in the first inning and two in the seventh. The visitors tallied three in the third, four in the fourth, one in the fifth and two in the sixth.

The Diamond Warriors managed just six hits- a double and single by Hendrix, two singles by Hall, and singles by Jones and Kylie Ming of Louisville.

Co-Lin pounded 13 hits in notching the win.

Stovall took the loss for EC on the mound, allowing seven runs on seven hits through three and one-third innings. He fanned one and walked six. Timothy Maloney of Meridian hurled two innings, allowing three runs on four hits. He fanned two batters and walked one. Aleman pitched the final one and two-thirds innings, allowing two hits. He fanned two batters.

WEEK OF May 5 2008

ECCC Diamond Warriors fall to EMCC in finale

EC Photo

Robert Westbrook's two-run homer on this swing helped give the Diamond Warriors a 3-1 victory in the first game of a doubleheader with division opponent Holmes Community College April 23 in Decatur. Westbrook's blast came in the sixth inning and snapped a 1-1 tie

Needing a sweep of East Mississippi Community College Monday to claim the MACJC Central Division title and a top seed in the state tournament, East Central Community College's Diamond Warriors did just the opposite, falling 3-1 in the first contest and 4-2 in the nightcap to the home-standing Lions, thus ending competition for 2008.

The defending state champions finished 26-24 overall and 8-8 in division competition under second-year head coach Neal Holliman.

Meridian Community College (10-6) advances to the MACJC State Tournament as division champion and Hinds Community College (9-7) finished runners-up. The North Division winner – Itawamba Community College- is designated as host of this year's tournament, scheduled May 1-4 on the Fulton campus. The top two teams from each division qualify for the double-elimination event.

In the first loss to East Mississippi, Diamond Warriors Terrell Hendrix, a product of East Oktibbeha High School, and Deon Williams of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County went one-for-two at the plate and Clint Coleman of Louisville was one-for-three.

Southpaw Mack Creighton of Quitman took the loss for EC on the mound.

In the second contest, Jack Edmondson of Nanih Waiya and Brandon Williams, a product of Newton County High School, both went one-for-two at the plate.

Right-hander Jesus Aleman of Belle Glade, Fla., was the losing pitcher.

See **ECCC**, page 2B

ECCC

Continued from page 1B

ECCC splits with Holmes

Robert Westbrook's two-run homer in the bottom of the sixth snapped a 1-1 tie and led to East Central Community College's 3-1 victory over Holmes Community College in the first game of an MACJC Central Division doubleheader.

Jones, a right-hander from Allen County High School in Adolphus, Ky., pitched a scoreless inning to post the save. He fanned one batter and allowed no hits.

In the second contest, Holmes scored four runs in the third and single runs in the fifth and seven innings to notch a 6-3 victory. EC scored all its runs in the sixth.

Josh Lafferty of Quitman led the EC offense with a double and two RBIs. Singles each were recorded by Casey, Jones, Coleman and Chris Parkman, a product of Raleigh High School.

In addition to Westbrook, a product of Newton County High School, other hitters for EC were Jacob Casey of Union, ZeEricka Hall of Carthage and Clint Coleman of Louisville, who had singles each.

Right-hander Steven Barnes, a product of Covington High School in Folson, La., allowed just two hits through six innings to earn the win. He fanned three batters and walked two. Brian

Starter Jesus Aleman of Belle Glade, Fla., took the loss for EC on the mound. The right-hander allowed four runs on four hits through three and one-third innings. He fanned three batters and walked two. Southpaw Mack Creighton of Quitman pitched two and two-third innings, allowing two runs and six hits.

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UNION APPEAL X
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ___
SPIRIT OF MORTON ___
THE PHILADELPHIAN X

WEEK OF May 5, 2008

ECCC Splits With Holmes

Robert Westbrook's two-run homer in the bottom of the sixth snapped a 1-1 tie and led to East Central Community College's 3-1 victory over Holmes Community College in the first game of an MACJC Central Division doubleheader.

In addition to Westbrook, a product of Newton County High School, other hitters for EC were Jacob Casey of Union, ZeEricka Hall of Carthage and Clint Coleman of Louisville, who had singles each.

Right-hander Steven Barnes, a product of Covington High School in Folson, La., allowed just two hits through six innings to earn the win. He fanned three batters and walked two. Brian Jones, a right-hander from Allen County High School in Adolphus, Ky., pitched a scoreless inning to post the save. He fanned one batter and allowed no hits.

In the second contest, Holmes scored four runs in the third and single runs in the fifth and seven innings to notch a 6-3 victory. EC scored all its runs in the sixth.

Robert Westbrook's two-run homer on this swing helped give the Diamond Warriors a 3-1 victory in the first game of a doubleheader with division opponent Holmes Community College April 23 in Decatur. Westbrook's blast came in the sixth inning and snapped a 1-1 tie.

Josh Lafferty of Quitman led the EC offense with a double and two RBIs. Singles each were recorded by Casey, Jones, Coleman and Chris Parkman, a product of Raleigh High School.

Starter Jesus Aleman of Belle Glade, Fla., took the loss for EC on the mound. The right-hander allowed four runs on four hits through three and one-third innings. He fanned three batters and walked two. Southpaw Mack Creighton of Quitman pitched two and two-third innings, allowing two runs and six hits. He fanned one batter. Jones finished the game on the mound and allowed one hit. He also fanned one batter.

APPEARED IN:

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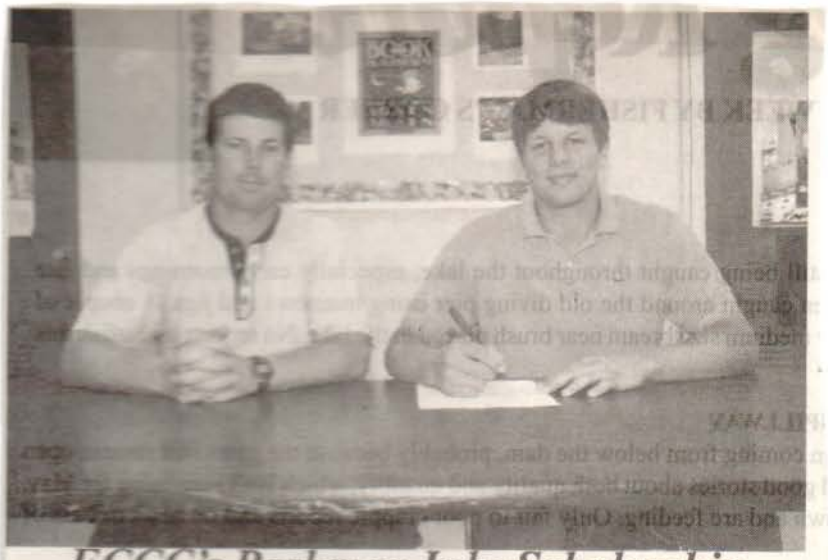
THE PHILADELPHIAN X

WEEK OF May 12, 2008



ECCC's Parkman Inks Scholarship

Chris Parkman (right), a two-year baseball standout at East Central Community College in Decatur, is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue his athletic career at the University of Alabama-Huntsville. Parkman, a 5-11, 200-pound catcher, served as co-captain of the 2008 squad, which finished 26-24 overall and 8-8 in the MACJC Central Division. He posted a .283 batted average with one home run, nine doubles and 37 RBIs during the 2008 campaign. He also helped lead East Central to the 2007 state championship and a 31-23 record. Parkman is a product of Raleigh High School and transferred to East Central from the University of West Alabama. His parents are Jimmy and Myrna Parkman of Pulaski. Parkman is pictured with Neal Holliman, ECCC head baseball coach, during a recent signing ceremony on the Decatur campus. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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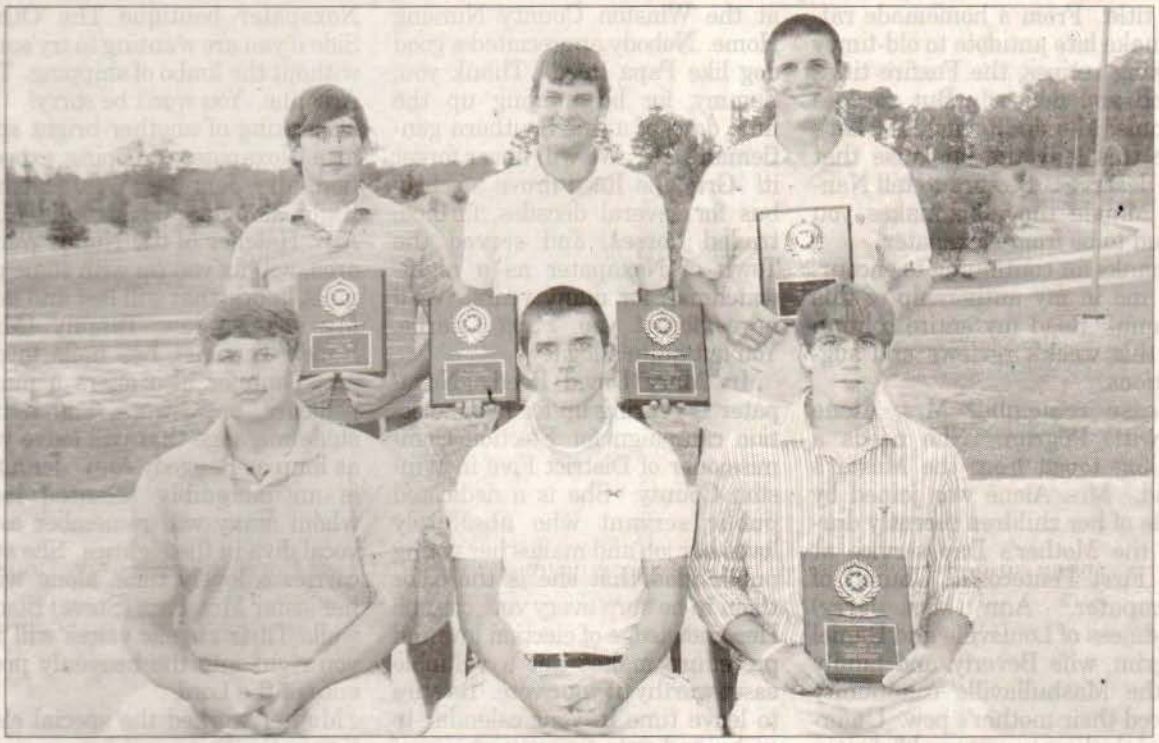
THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF May 19, 2008

ECCC Baseball Award winners



These members of the East Central Community College baseball team received awards following the 2008 campaign. Receiving team captains awards were (seated from left) Chris Parkman of Pulaski, Jacob Casey of Union and Josh Lafferty of Quitman, who was also presented the Jamie Clark Warrior Award. Standing from left are Jack Edmonson of Louisville, most improved player; Brian Jones of Scottsville, Ky., most valuable player and most valuable pitcher; and Robert Westbrook of Little Rock, scholar athlete. Jones also received first team All-State honors. The presentations were made by ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and Diamond Warrior head coach Neal Holliman at the annual Spring Sports Awards Program held on the Decatur campus.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF June 23, 2008

SUBMITTED PHOTO

HUDSON SIGNS WITH ECCC

Calvary Christian School baseball standout Stephen Hudson recently became the first CCS graduate to sign an athletic scholarship, inking a national letter-of-intent to continue his career at East Central Community College. Pictured above, from left are: (Seated) Georgia Hudson, Stephen Hudson and ECCC head coach Neil Holliman. (Standing) Calvary assistant coach Ebb Fox, principal Keith May and Calvary head coach Jerry Dean.

APPEARED IN:

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

Aug 28, 2008

Late baseball coach among ECCC honorees

from school reports

Decatur residents Marijo James Denson and Richard E. Mayo, A.J. Kilpatrick of Grenada and the late Jamie Clark will receive special recognition during homecoming activities scheduled Sept. 27 at East Central Community College in Decatur, the college announced.

Denson is this year's Alumna of the Year and Mayo was selected Alumnus of the Year. Kilpatrick and Clark are the newest additions to the College's Athletic Hall of Fame. Honorees are chosen by the College's Alumni Association.

Denson, a 1947 ECCC graduate, is being honored for her numerous civic and community activities and her successful career with the Motion Picture Theatre Company. She is also a longtime supporter of the College. She served as ECCC's May Queen her sophomore year.

Mayo (Class of 1955) is being honored for his 30-plus years of service with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The chemical engineer received NASA's Exceptional Service Medal in 1988 for his contributions and achievements in the various space programs. He held several administrative positions with the organization until his retirement in 1990.

Kilpatrick, a Philadelphia native, is a 1952 graduate of ECCC, where he was a two-year letterman in football and basketball. He served as East Central's athletic coordinator and head football coach from 1982-1991 and led the Warriors to the state playoffs in 1987. His overall record during his 36-year career as head football coach on the high school and community/junior level is 238-138-12, and includes several conference and division titles and a state championship.

Clark, who lost his brief battle with brain cancer in 2001, served as ECCC's head baseball coach from 1988 to 2001. The West Point native led the 1998 Diamond Warriors to the College's first state baseball title and a 32-22 record. He received MACJC Coach of the Year honors following the championship season.

Clark's 1998 squad is among special groups being honored during the 2008 homecoming celebration. Clark's overall record at ECCC was 365-302-1. The 1997 squad set a record for most season victories with 40 and finished state runners-up. The College's baseball stadium is named in Clark's honor.

Also being honored this year are former tennis players and members of all classes ending in "8." Special recognition is scheduled for members of the 1958 class in recognition of their Golden Anniversary. Members of the 1957, 1958 and 1959 classes will also hold their annual reunion.

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WEEK OF 9-01-08

IN DECATUR

WESTBROOK RECEIVES NJCAA ACADEMIC HONOR: Former East Central Community College baseball standout Robert Westbrook (right) of Decatur recently received a certificate from the National Junior College Athletic Association indicating his selection as an NJCAA Academic All-American for 2007-08. Westbrook achieved a 3.636 grade point average, based on a 4.0 scale. The Newton County High School product is shown receiving the award from Neal Holliman, ECCC head baseball coach.

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

ECCC diamond duo ink with Valley State

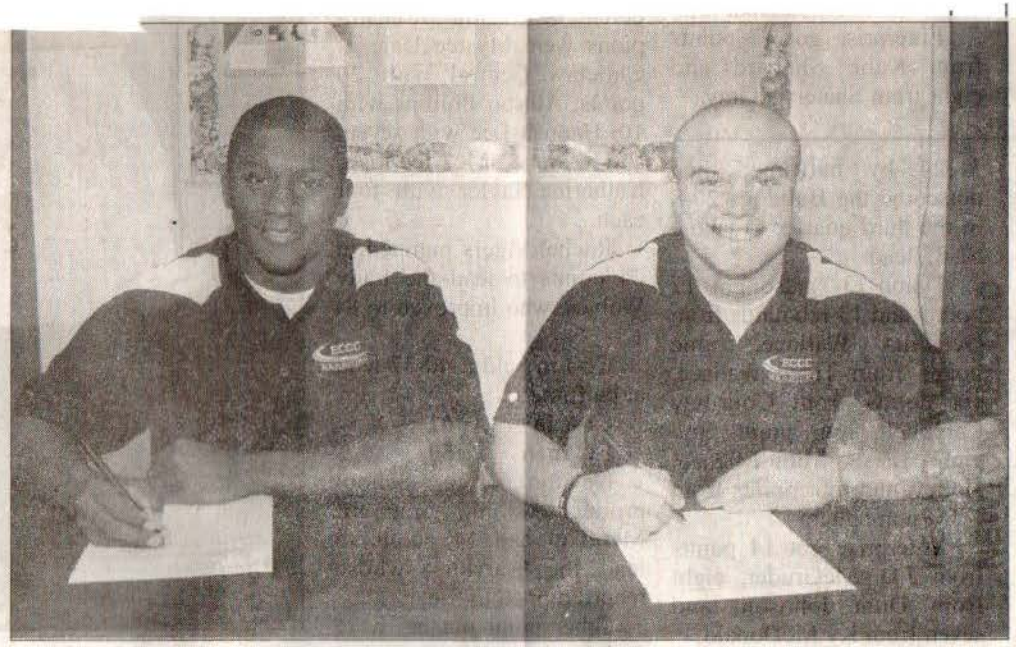
from school reports

Two members of the East Central Community College baseball team have signed national letters-of-intent to continue their careers at Mississippi Valley State University in Itta Bena, according to ECCC head baseball coach Neal Holliman.

ZeErika Hall, a 6-foot, 185-pound outfielder from Carthage, and Kylie Ming, a 5-foot-8, 185-pound infielder/catcher from Louisville, will join Doug Shanks' Delta Devils' squad for the 2009-10 campaign.

Holliman said he is "excited" and "proud" that Hall and Ming will continue their baseball careers on the Division I level. He also praised both players and expects the two standouts to play "major roles" for the

Continued on 4B...
See Valley...



New Devils
ECCC Diamond Warriors (from left) ZeErika Hall of Carthage and Kylie Ming of Louisville wil continue their baseba careers at Mississippi Valley State Universit
ECCC ph

Valley...

Continued from 3B...

Diamond Warriors this spring.

"ZeErika played in 32 games as a freshman and possesses some high qualities both on and off the field," said the third-year ECCC head coach. "He is looked upon to be an everyday player for us in the spring. He possesses great speed and continues to improve in all areas as a player."

Hall is a former standout at Carthage High School, where he was selected for the Mississippi High School All-Star Game. The Carthage baseball team is coached by former ECCC Diamond Warrior David Luke.

Hall's parents are Samantha Woodard and Casey McQueen.

Holliman said Ming, who is slated to start at second base this spring, "is a great young man to coach; he continually improves on a daily basis." He added, "It has been a joy to have him in our program and watch his progress as a player and person. Kylie's versatility makes him very valuable to any program."

Ming is a former standout at Louisville High School and received All-District, team captain, most outstanding defensive player and hustle awards. Ming's coach at Louisville was Charlie Smith.

Ming is the son of Derrell and Elsie Ming.

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ____
SPIRIT OF MORTON ____

WEEK OF 12-22-08

ECCC Diamond Darlings

Diamond Darlings for 2008-09 have been announced for East Central Community College in Decatur. The Diamond Darlings is an organization for female students interested in baseball to become involved with the ECCC Baseball program. Members include: (front row, from left) Olivia Shaw of Paulding, Kate Mason of Newton, Lauren Lyle of Decatur, Donna Strickland and Anna Williams, both of Newton; Ashley Fortune of Philadelphia, Shardae Foley of Hickory and Lacey Wilson of Philadelphia; (back row, from left) Tanika Robinson of Forest, Cayla Boyd of Decatur, Rachel Ramirez of Forest, Brooklyn Boyette of Noxapater, Marlee Deweese and Chelsey Boatner, both of Philadelphia; Santigious Culpepper of Forest and Lacy Clay of Noxapater. Members not pictured are Leigh Rentz and Morgan Deweese, both of Philadelphia; Bailey Brown of Morton, and Courtney Dearing of Steens. For more information about ECCC Diamond Darlings, contact the squad's sponsor Kate Covich at 601-635-6326 call toll free, 1-877-462-3222 ext. 326. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF Jan. 7

Nationally ranked EC Lady Warriors suffer first loss

Competition in the New Year began on a disappointing note for East Central Community College basketball squads who were swept in non-division action Thursday night at Itawamba Community College in Fulton.

EC photo

Warriors Joe Thompson (32), a product of Morton High School, and Josh Luckett (30) of Carthage are shown in action during ECCC's recent 79-68 victory over Mississippi Delta. Thompson, a 6-4 freshman center, and Luckett, a 6-4 freshman forward, have helped lead EC to a 6-6 overall record and 1-0 mark in the MACJC South Division.

The Lady Warriors, ranked tenth in the latest NJCAA poll, suffered their first season loss by a 75-57 margin to the Lady Indians and fell to 9-1 under third-year head coach Bill Smith.

Freshman Mystee Dale, a former Choctaw Central High School standout, led EC with 20 points. Also scoring were Tawayatha Evans of Newton, 13; Rashima Jenkins, a product of Airline High School in Bossier City, La., 12; Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine, eight; and Alisa Matlock of Carthage and Alisha McAfee of Northwest Rankin, two each.

Sanqueeta Meardith of Shannon poured in 22 points to lead the Lady Indians, who improved to 6-7 and avenged an earlier 70-50 loss to the Lady Warriors in Decatur.

Itawamba held a 37-30 advantage at the break.

In men's action, the Warriors were outscored 77-59 by the tenth-ranked Indians and dropped to 5-6 under second-year head coach Maurice Bowie, a former Itawamba assistant.

Top point maker for EC was Josh Luckett of Carthage, who pumped in 14 points. Also scoring were Marquis Wilson of Delhi, La. and Darron Maxtion, a product of Sparkman High School in Harvest, La., seven each; Justin Brown of South Leake, six; Des Morales of Lake and Tony Parker of Meridian, five each; Marico Jones of Forest, four; Devarious "Scooter" Walker of Newton County, three; and Rod Lofton of Forest, Dre Dickinson of Meridian and Maurice Langston of Northeast Lauderdale, two each.

Sergio Kerusch of Meridian had 28 points to lead Itawamba, which improved to 12-1 under former ECCC head coach Marty Cooper.

The Indians led 41-21 at halftime.

EC fell 81-77 to the visiting Indians in late November.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors begin MACJC South Division action Monday night at Jones County Junior College in Ellisville and host division foe Meridian Community College Thursday night in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

APPEARED IN:

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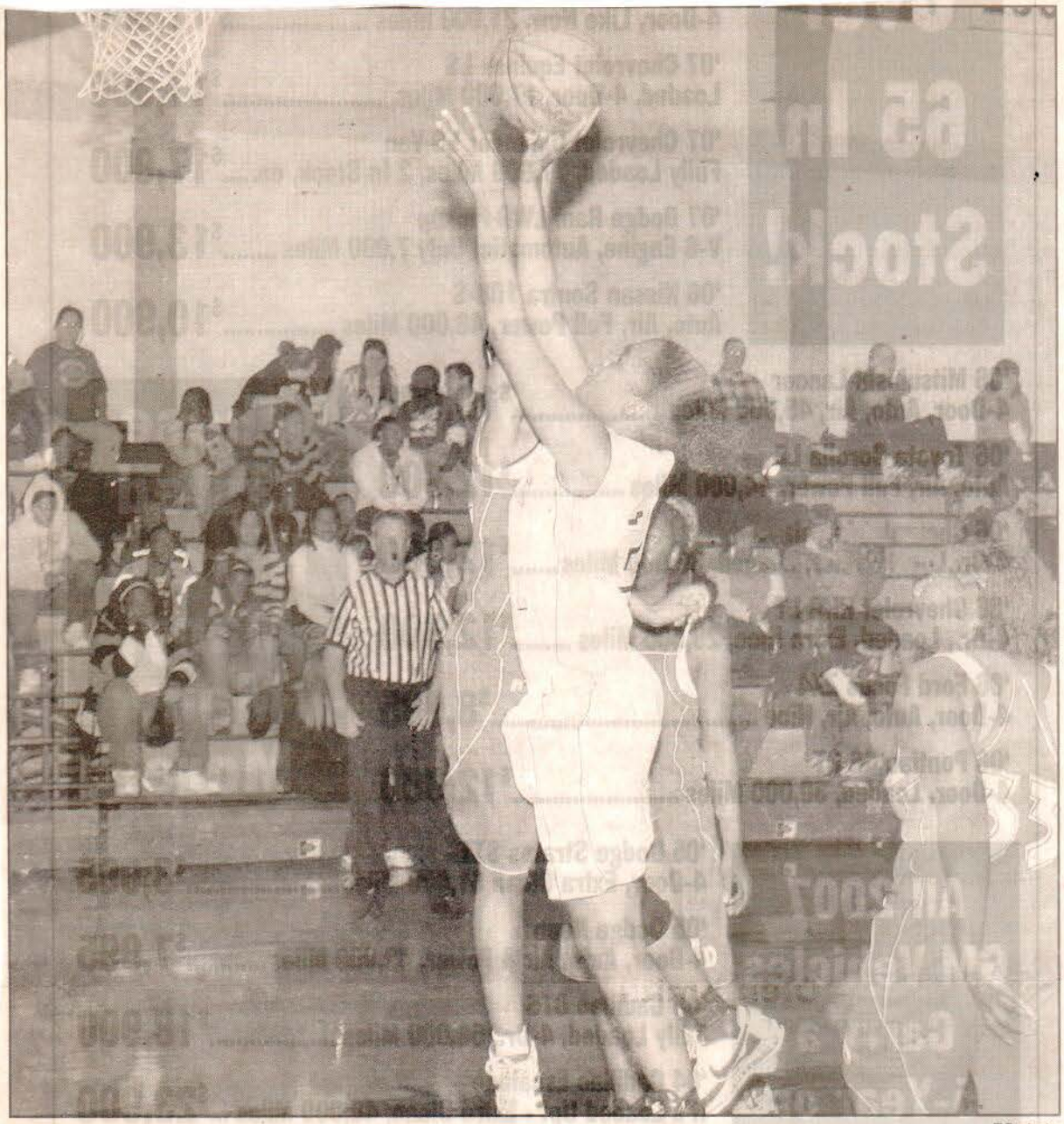
Jan 7



EC photo

Mystee Dale (21) has helped lead the ECCC Lady Warriors to a 10-1 record and a tenth-place ranking in the latest NJCAA poll. East Central is also 1-0 in the MACJC South Division. Dale, a freshman forward, is a former standout at Choctaw Central High School. She is shown making a shot during EC's 80-74 overtime win over Mississippi Delta earlier in the season.

WEEK OF Jan. 7

EC sweeps Jones; girls lose first game

East Central Community College's Lady Warriors rallied from a 19-point deficit to defeat Jones County's women 87-83 and the Warriors held on for 73-67 win as both squads successfully began MACJC South Division action Monday night in Ellisville.

Rashima Jenkins, a product of Airline High School in Bossier City, La., poured in 23 points and Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine added 22 in the comeback victory for the nationally ranked East Central women, who improved to 10-1 under third-year head coach Bill Smith. The Lady Warriors were ranked 10th in the latest NJCAA poll, prior to suffering their first loss of the season on January 3- a 75-57 setback at Itawamba.

Also scoring for EC were Mystee Dale of Choctaw Central and Tawayatha Evans of Newton, 12 each; Alisa Matlock of Carthage, six; Jordan Patterson of Oak Hill Academy, four; Chotsani Henderson of Newton and Alisha McAfee of Northwest Rankin, three each; and Allison Phillips of Leake Academy, two.

Kate Hubbard of Simpson Academy had 26 points to lead the Lady Bobcats, who fell to 7-5.

Jones led 52-47 at halftime.

See **ECCC**, Page 2B

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Jan. 7

ECCC

From Page 1B

In the men's contest, Marquis Wilson of Delhi, La., pumped in 17 points as the Warriors evened their record at 6-6 under second-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

Also scoring for EC were Josh Luckett of Carthage, 15; Darron Maxtion, a product of Sparkman High School in Harvest, Ala., 14; Rod Lofton of Forest, 11; Davarius "Scooter" Walker of Newton County, seven; Dre Dickinson of Meridian, four; Tony Parker of Meridian, three; and Justin Brown of South Leake, two.

Trenton Marshall, a product of East St. John High School in Garyville, La., had 25 points to lead the Bobcats, who fell to 4-8.

The Warriors led 34-28 at the break.

EC squads continue division play this Thursday by hosting Meridian Community College in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. Women's action begins at 6 p.m. followed the men's contest at 8 p.m.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors host division foe Copiah-Lincoln Community College on Monday, Jan. 14, which is also designated as "Be Our Guest" Night on the Decatur campus.

Lady Warriors fall to Itawamba

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The Indians led 41-21 at halftime. EC fell 81-77 to the visiting Indians in late November.

WEEK OF Jan. 7

JUCO BASKETBALL

MONDAY'S RESULTS

Women

EAST MISS. 59, NORTHWEST MISS. 57

Northwest Miss. — Thomas 14. Additional scoring not available.

East Miss. (8-7) — Kottia White 11. Additional scoring not available.

Halftime — East Miss. 31-19.

EAST CENTRAL 87, JONES COUNTY 83

East Central (10-1) — Rashima Jenkins 23, Tanesha Brown 22, Tawayatha Evans 12, Mystee Dale 12, Matlock 6, Patterson 4, Henderson 3, McAfee 3, Phillips 2.

Jones County — Kate Hubbard 26, Demara Bolton 15, Kim Lewis 11, Mills 9, Booth 6, Carter 6, Ward 5, Tucker 5.

Halftime — Jones County 52-47.

SOUTHWEST MISS. 67, MISS. GULF COAST 65

Southwest Miss. (9-1) — Phenicia Taylor 18, Chatman 8, Wiltz 9, Patterson 2, Kimberly Griffin 18, Swindle 3, Brabham 9.

Miss. Gulf Coast (4-8) — Taylor 2, Keaundra Augustus 26, Ulmer 5, Mackay 4, Gray 3, Woollard 2, Ja-net Schonberg 11, Palomarez 5, Bounds 7.

Halftime — Miss. Gulf Coast 37-23.

ITAWAMBA 73, NORTHEAST MISS. 41

Northeast Miss. (3-8) — Welch 6, Cathey 3, Crayton 8, Erica Grayson 10, Wright 5, Knupp 7, Jones 2.

Itawamba (7-7) — Shumpert 7, Shannon 5, Cannon 5, Sanqueeta Meardith 29, Collins 5, Williamson 6, Duke 4, Bowling 2, Larry 4, Benford 4, Edwards 2.

Halftime — Itawamba 35-20.

COPIAH-LINCOLN 60, PEARL RIVER 49

Pearl River (9-3) — Lowe 8, Olivia Magee 14, Barnes 2, Eady 2, Booth 6, Brittany Lewis 11, Thomas 6.

Copiah-Lincoln (10-1) — Wilbert 2, Williams 3, Moncure 6, Thomas 3, Dumas 2, Alisha Mason 11, Wilcher 7, Ellis 6, Reisha Bullock 17, Ward 3.

Halftime — Copiah-Lincoln 34-23.

MERIDIAN 76, HINDS 58

Hinds (7-5) — Palmer 17, Williams 11, Trimble 9, Harrison 8, Smith 2, Good 1, Richardson 8, Wilson 2.

Meridian (11-1) — Nadosha Strickland 24, Jennifer Wair 15, Hopkins 7, Babina 5, Hirmke 2, D. Parker 8, Tiara Parker 11, McMillian 2, Williams 2.

Halftime — Hinds 32-29.

Men

ITAWAMBA 84, NORTHEAST MISS. 75

Northeast Miss. (7-6) — Johnson 3, Travis Lee 23, Thomas 2, William Burdette 15, Ken Moore 12, Cordero Bowen 12, Freeman 2, Luckett 6.

Itawamba (13-1) — Andre Crudup 17, McKinney 5, Brock Anthony 28, Johnson 8, Hadley 4, Jenkins 2, Sergio Kerusch 20.

Halftime — Itawamba 42-37.

MISS. GULF COAST 80, SOUTHWEST MISS. 75

Southwest Miss. — Aubrey Coleman 42, Terencio Powell 11, Broomfield 7, Holloway 4, Taylor 4, Smith 3, Ricard 2, Newton 2.

Miss. Gulf Coast (9-3) — Justin Ray 32, Teshawn Bryon 12, Luther Suggs 10, T.C. Franklin 10, Nickson 5, Burnett 5, Ealey 4, Mosley 2.

Halftime — Southwest Miss. 42-38.

COPIAH-LINCOLN 54, PEARL RIVER 48

Pearl River (7-5) — Williams 3, Hawkins 7, Giovanni Sims 13, Johnson 2, Sparks 2, Smith 4, Jemarcus Jackson 13, Weathers 4.

Copiah-Lincoln (7-4) — Blenks 3, Martin 5, London 6, Trent Hutchin 14, Newsome 4, Anthony Wilcher 12, Greg Truvillion 10.

Halftime — Copiah-Lincoln 26-23.

EAST CENTRAL 73, JONES COUNTY 67

East Central (6-6) — Walker 7, Rod Lotton 11, Dickinson 4, Marquis Wilson 17, Maxtion 14, Brown 2, Josh Luckett 15, Parker 3.

Jones County (4-8) — Burnett 4, Trenton Marshall 25, Jones 9, Collins 9, Brown 2, Jonathan Woodland 11, Bolton 4, McCullum 3.

Halftime — East Central 34-28.

MERIDIAN 77, HINDS 60

Hinds (3-10) — Higgins 18, Arnold 14, Nelson 10, Harper 9, Watkins 5, Casey 2, Coleman 2.

Meridian (7-6) — Regis Huddleston 12, Thompson 6, Brown 7, Mario Luckett 19, Otis Williams 18, McCurtis 3.

Halftime — Meridian 35-31.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF Jan. 7

JUCO BASKETBALL

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

Women

PEARL RIVER 84, MISS. GULF COAST 64

Miss. Gulf Coast (4-9) — Taylor 6, Augustus 12, Ulmer 3, Mackay 4, Stidman 2, Johnson 2, Schonberg 15, Palomarez 16, Bounds 4.

Pearl River — De La Salle 2, Lowe 11, Magee 24, Eady 9, Booth 16, Archer 2, Lewis 8, Thomas 12.

Halftime — Pearl River 53-28.

SOUTHWEST MISS. 67, COPIAH-LINCOLN 58

Copiah-Lincoln (10-2) — Wilbert 3, Williams 6, Moncure 4, Thomas 8, Dumas 13, Mason 2, Wilcher 5, Ellis 12, Ward 5.

Southwest Miss. (10-1) — Taylor 11, Thompson 2, Chapman 5, Wilts 16, Griffin 12, Swindle 12, Brabham 6, Bryant 2.

Halftime — Southwest Miss. 32-26.

EAST CENTRAL 79, MERIDIAN 76

Meridian (11-2) — Wair 16, Anderson 14, Strickland 14, Parker 10, Hopkins 8, Clayton 5, Babina 7.

East Central (11-1) — Dale 25, Jenkins 20, Matlock 10, Evans 9, Henderson 6, Brown 2, Phillips 2, McAfee 2.

Halftime — East Central 37-28.

JONES COUNTY 72, HINDS 69, OT

Jones County — Bolton 8, Carter 16, Leverette 6, Hubbard 18, Lewis 7, Ward 3, Tucker 2, Booth 9, Mills 2.

Hinds (6-6) — Wilson 7, Williams 22, Smith 5, Richardson 5, Trimble 2, Harrison 20, Palmer 8.

Halftime — Jones County 40-23. **End of regulation** — Tied at 62.

NORTHWEST MISS. 77, MISS. DELTA 72

Miss. Delta (4-8) — Jackson 5, Love 20, Ayers 16, Scott 5, Lawson 20, Overton 6.

Northwest Miss. (5-7) — Rogers 8, Pointer 14, Fayne 7, Johnson 8, Burgess 2, Price 1, Whitehead 3, Martin 4, Thomas 8, Scott 4, Baker 9, Wilson 9.

Halftime — Northwest Miss. 38-29.

ITAWAMBA 69, HOLMES 63

Itawamba (8-7) — Meardith 21, Collins 13, Shumpert 12, Larry 10, Shannon 5, Benford 2, Cannon 6.

Holmes (5-8) — Brown 15, Bryant 14, Winfield 10, Harris 9, K. Anderson 9, Flanagan 4, Webster 2.

Halftime — Itawamba 25-23.

NORTHEAST MISS. 87, COAHOMA 62

Coahoma (1-11) — Taylor 5, Beamon 4, Kern 9, Johnson 10, Carr 4, Washington 10, Robinson 5, Hearon 8, Branch 7.

Northeast Miss. (4-8) — McNair 6, Welch 11, Ford 8, Cathey 4, Crayton 20, Wright 4, Grayson 22, Knupp 12.

Halftime — Northeast Miss. 37-32.

Men

COPIAH-LINCOLN 69, SOUTHWEST MISS. 65

Copiah-Lincoln (8-4) — Truvillion 20, Hutchin 16, Newsome 10, Blanks 6, Martin 6, Wilcher 5, London 4, Bass 2.

Southwest Miss. (4-8) — Coleman 27, Powell 15, Holloway 12, Ricard 7, Brumfield 4, Ward 4, Smith 3, Newton 2.

Halftime — Copiah-Lincoln 35-28.

MISS. DELTA 81, NORTHWEST MISS. 72

Miss. Delta — George 4, McDaniel 3, Washington 7, Howard 10, Taylor 4, Causey 8, Malone 8, Wilson 17, Daniels 20.

Northwest Miss. (5-10) — Shaw 6, Nelson 3, Hilliard 2, Harris 16, Pegues 10, Haywood 14, Izonfuo 9, Edwards 12.

Halftime — Tied at 29.

ITAWAMBA 77, HOLMES 66

Itawamba (14-1) — Brock 26, McKinney 11, Johnson 10, Crudup 8, Jenkins 8, Kerusch 8, Marks 2, Word 1.

Holmes (10-3) — Brown 21, Banks 18, Cooper 13, Boyd 7, Bell 4, Alexander 3.

Halftime — Itawamba 37-30.

NORTHEAST MISS. 73, COAHOMA 62

Coahoma (6-7) — Jacks 16, McPherson 1, Jones 15, Whitehead 7, Washington 10, Cowan 4, Moody 7, Robinson 2.

Northeast Miss. (8-6) — B. Johnson 11, D. Johnson 6, Lee 22, Thomas 5, Luckett 6, Burdette 12, Moore 11.

Halftime — Northeast Miss. 34-28.

MERIDIAN 87, EAST CENTRAL 66

Meridian (8-5) — Huddleston 33, Luckett 15, McCurtis 4, Shelwood 15, Thompson 6, Williams 12, Smith 2.

East Central (6-7) — Walker 9, Robinson 2, Brown 6, Lofton 3, Wilson 16, Maxtion 10, Luckett 17, Thompson 1, Parker 2.

Halftime — Meridian 43-29.

JONES COUNTY 80, HINDS 68

Jones County (5-8) — Woodland 10, Page 1, Marshall 15, Collins 12, Jones 3, Denson 3, Burnett 8, Brown 2, L. McCullum 10, Bolton 2, T. McCullum 2, Dorsey 4.

Hinds (2-10) — Arnold 6, Higgins 7, Nelson 4, Winston 14, Watkins 19, Harper 8, Harvey 8, Watson 2.

Halftime — Jones County 44-31.

PEARL RIVER 69, MISS. GULF COAST 62

Miss. Gulf Coast (9-4) — Franklin 16, Ray 16, Suggs 11, Burnett 7, Byron 5, Hall 3, Ealey 2, Nickson 2.

Pearl River (8-5) — Smith 17, Sims 14, Jakcson 13, Weathers 10, Hawkins 6, Porter 3, Stewart 3, Williams 3.

Halftime — Pearl River 33-26.

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WEEK OF Jan. 7

Game on

The race for the MACJC women's South Division title should be something to behold. Four teams began division play this week with just one loss on the season.

"In the division, it's going to be a lot different," said East Central

No. 17 Copiah-Lincoln (10-1), Meridian (11-1) and Southwest (9-1) also won their division openers.

Meridian, led by preseason All-America Nadosha Strickland, visits ECCC in Decatur tonight.

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WEEK OF Jan. 7

Small College Notebook

Gradual return feels right to MC coach

By Mike Christensen
mchristensen@clarionledger.com

When Mississippi College's Choctaws play their first home game of the new year tonight, Mike Jones will be back on the bench.

Sort of.

Jones

"I've kinda been staying behind the bench," Jones said.

The MC coach and athletic director had triple-bypass surgery in early November and is easing his way back into coaching.

"I feel good," Jones said Wednesday. "The main thing is my energy level. I get tired quickly. I've been fighting tiredness. ... But I'm OK. I feel blessed just to be here."

Jones has been attending practices and breaking down film for several weeks. He went on the team's recent trip to Virginia and Texas.

Don Lofton — Jones' longtime assistant and the head coach for four years while Jones was on hiatus as full-time AD — has been running the games from the coach's seat.

"Don's done a wonderful job," Jones said. "I've put a lot on his shoulders; I'm thankful that he's here. We work well together. We complement each other so well."

The Choctaws, two-time defending American Southwest Conference champs, are 7-3 and 4-2 in the league. Junior Kiki Christmas, one of 14 newcomers on the active roster, leads in scoring at 14.5 points per game.

"We've been up and down," Jones said, "but the potential is there. We've just got so many new guys."

What Jones would like to see — from his seat behind the bench — against ASC foe Sul Ross State tonight is some tighter defense.

Opponents are shooting over

CC coach Bill Smith, whose team started 9-0 and rose to No. 10 in the country. "The South is so strong. It'll be a battle every night."

ECCC, now 10-1 and ranked 13th, won its division opener Monday, 87-83 at Jones County as Rashima Jenkins and ex-Provine star Tanesha Brown combined for 45 points.

"Any road win is a good win," Smith said. "We've got a good nucleus back from last year with five sophomores. Things are clicking so far."

No. 17 Copiah-Lincoln (10-1), Meridian (11-1) and Southwest (9-1) also won their division openers.

Meridian, led by preseason All-America Nadosha Strickland, visits ECCC in Decatur tonight.

Tip-ins

Delta State's women, ranked No. 2 in NCAA Division II, are 12-0, the best start in coach Sandra Rushing's six seasons. The Lady Statesmen open Gulf South Conference play on Saturday at Ouachita Baptist. Freshman Sarita "Bug" Cooper, Mississippi's Miss Basketball in 2007, has been a contributor for DSU, handing out 49 assists. ... MC's Rosemary Green, a Jones JC transfer, was named the ASC East women's player of the week after averaging 19 ppg and 4.5 rpg in a pair of wins. ...

Itawamba CC's men (13-1), the defending Region 23 champs, are ranked No. 11 in the new NJCAA poll. ... The Millsaps men, coming off a huge victory over Trinity last Saturday, take their seven-game winning streak on a challenging road swing, starting Friday at Colorado College. The Majors (10-1, 3-0 Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference) will also play Austin College (Sunday) and the University of Dallas (Monday) on the trip. ... Former Delta State standout Jeremy Richardson, who became the fourth DSU alum to play in the NBA or ABA

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Jan. 7

Lady

No. 13 ECCC women prevail in battle of one-loss teams while Huddleston goes off for Eagles in victory

By Marty Stamper

Special to The Star

DECATUR — The 13th-ranked Lady Warriors of East Central Community College used 25 points from Mystee Dale and 20 from Rashima Jenkins to take a 79-76 MACJC South Division win over Meridian Community College Thursday night. ECCC improved to 11-1 overall and 2-0 in the division, while MCC fell to 11-2 and 1-1.

ECCC **79**

MCC **76**

In the men's contest, the Eagles kicked the Warriors out of their tepee behind the hot hand of Regis Huddleston with an 87-66 victory. The Eagles improved to 8-5 overall and 2-0 in league play. ECCC fell to 6-7 and 1-1.

In the women's contest, the Lady Warriors scored the game's first six points and led 26-12 on a basket by Tawayatha Evans with 7:50 left in the opening half.

"We came out and played really good the first five or six minutes and got that 10-12 point lead," said ECCC coach Bill Smith. "The girls did a good job of coming out ready to play tonight."

MCC closed to within 37-28 at halftime behind nine points from Maranda Anderson and seven from Jennifer Wair.

Dale had 17 first half points for ECCC with Jenkins adding 12.

"They're two of our top three leading scorers," Smith said. "Rashima did a real good job against their big girl the first half and then Mystee stepped it up in the second half and made some big buckets."

After MCC closed to within 44-41 on a basket by Jenia Babina with 15:26 to play, neither team would lead by more than four points until just 36 seconds remained.

"It's two fine basketball teams battling with each other," said MCC coach Hilary Allen. "I don't want to compare it to a heavyweight fight, but basically it was a punch, counter punch. We would score and go up and then they would go back up three or four."

Chotsani Henderson put ECCC up 77-71 with two free throws with 39 seconds left, but 2-of-6 free-throw shooting by the Lady Warriors over

See **ECCC**
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Jan 7

Warriors hold serve

PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

UP WE GO

East Central Community College's Jordon Patterson passes off as Meridian Community College's Maranda Anderson defends during their MACJC South Division showdown Thursday night in Decatur.

WEEK OF Jan. 7

ECCC

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the final 29 seconds left the Lady Eagles trailing only 79-76 with 10 seconds to go.

MCC was unable to convert on its final possession, however.

"We were just able to hang on and beat a good Meridian team," Smith said. "You've got to win at home. We've got 17th-ranked Copiah-Lincoln coming in Monday, so we've got to go right back to work."

ECCC also got 10 points from Alisa Matlock, nine from Evans, and six from Henderson.

MCC got 16 points from Wair, 14 apiece from Anderson and NaDosha Strickland, 10 from Tiara Parker, eight from Zirconia Hopkins, and seven from Babina.

"It's early in the division," said Allen. "This game isn't going to win the division or lose the division for us.

"Certainly, it would have been nice to take care of a victory on the road. Some point in time, I've got to get some victories on the road in order to be competitive in this division.

"Give East Central credit. They're a great basketball team. They made some shots when they needed to. They made the plays when they needed to."

Meridian men	**87**
East Central	**66**

Regis Huddleston drained eight 3-point baskets in leading MCC with a game-high 33 points.

"It was a big road win," said MCC coach George Brooks. "We battled and played hard. We played under control and shared the basketball and kept the ball moving and the floor spread.

"We gang rebounded and that's what you've got to do when you're small. "It's a good win for us."

Huddleston had 12 points on four treys in the first half as the Eagles carried a 42-29 lead into halftime. Mario Luckett had 11 points in the first half.

MCC upped its lead to 56-34 in the first five minutes of the second half to take control.

ECCC closed to within 58-48 with 10:15 remaining, but the Eagles scored 13 of the next 18 points to extend their lead to 71-53 with seven minutes showing.

MCC also got 15 points each from Luckett and Reggie Shelwood and 12 from Otis Williams.

ECCC got 17 points from Josh Luckett, 16 from Marquis Wilson, 10 from Darron Maxtion, and nine from Devarus Walker.

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WEEK OF Jan. 7

ECCC takes two from host Jones

from staff reports

East Central Community College used a solid defensive effort in the second half to knock off homestanding Jones County Junior College 87-83 Monday night in area women's junior-college basketball action.

ECCC, which bounced back from its first loss of the season, improved to 10-1 overall and 1-0 in South Division play. Jones fell to 7-5 and 0-1.

The Lady Warriors trailed 52-47 at halftime, but limited Jones to just 31 points after intermission.

Rashima Jenkins led ECCC with 23 points while Tanesha Brown scored 22. Tawayatha Evans and Mystee Dale chipped in 12 apiece.

Kate Hubbard led Jones with 26 points, while Demara Bolton scored 15.

East Central hosts Meridian Thursday night in Decatur.

— Rocky Higginbotham

AREA ROUNDUP

East Central	**73**
Jones men	**67**

The Warriors completed the South Division sweep with a six-point win over the host Bobcats in Ellisville.

East Central, which led 34-28 at halftime, put four players in double figures. Marquis Wilson led the way with 17 points, while Josh Luckett scored 15, Darron Maxtion 14 and Rod Lofton 11.

Trenton Marshall had a game-high 25 points for Jones, which fell to 4-8. Jonathan Woodland scored 11, while LaBarton Jones and Renell Collins had nine apiece.

ECCC, which improved to 6-6, hosts Meridian Thursday in Decatur.

— Rocky Higginbotham

LATE RESULTS
PREP SOCCER

Newton County	**1**
Meridian girls	**0**

In a previously-unreported game from last Friday, the Lady Cougars blanked Meridian in non-division action.

Newton County's only goal came from Wendy McCracken, while Catherine Brand had the assist.

The Lady Cougars improved to 9-3-5 overall.

Meridian, meanwhile, returns to action today by hosting Hattiesburg.

— Rocky Higginbotham

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Jan. 14

East Central ladies top No. 17 Co-Lin

By Marty Stamper
Special to The Star

DECATUR — Close victories appear to be the storyline for the East Central Community College Lady Warriors this basketball season.

Monday produced a 60-59 win over Copiah-Lincoln Community College for the Lady Warriors, who are ranked No. 13 in the NJCAA Division I poll. Co-Lin entered the contest at No. 17.

ECCC improved to 3-0 in the MACJC South Division and 12-1 overall with the win.

The ECCC women had posted a four-point win over Jones Junior College and a three-point victory over Meridian Community College in their previous league contests.

"We knew we'd probably be a little flat after our big win last week over Meridian. Co-Lin was coming off a tough loss to Southwest, so both teams were a little flat," ECCC coach Bill Smith said.

"Somehow or another, we were just fortunate enough to have one more point at the end than they did.

"It's another win and that's all that matters."

Down 14-8 early in the game, the Lady Warriors closed to within 34-33 at halftime behind eight points each from Rashima Jenkins, Mystee Dale, and Tanesha Brown.

In a turnover-plagued second half by both teams, the Lady Wolves pulled out to a 49-41 advantage on a basket by Alisha Mason with 13:46 remaining.

ECCC rallied to within 55-52 with just under eight minutes left on a 3-pointer by Jordon Patterson and a three-point play by Tawayatha Evans.

A putback basket by Jenkins cut the deficit to 55-54 with 7:22 left. Alisa McAfee gave the Lady Warriors a 56-55 lead a minute later.

Co-Lin's Kristin Ellis tied the game at 59 with a basket in the lane with 1:37 showing.

Dale was fouled on an inbounds pass with 45.8 seconds left and made the second of two free throws for the winning margin.

Co-Lin missed three shots in the final 17 seconds and ECCC's Chotsani Henderson gathered a rebound with five seconds left and dribbled out the clock.

Jenkins led ECCC with 15 points. Brown scored 11, Dale had nine,

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ECCC

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Matlock seven, and Patterson six. Mason led Co-Lin (9-3, 1-2) with 22 points. Ellis scored 11 and Reisha Bullock had nine.

Co-Lin	**81**
ECCC men	**70**

The Wolves outscored the Warriors 48-36 in the second half to improve to 9-3 overall and 3-0 in the South Division.

Despite trailing 28-19 at one point, ECCC took a 34-33 lead into halftime behind a balanced scoring attack that saw Devarus Walker score five points and five other Warriors get four.

In the second half, Co-Lin led by as many as 14 points at 65-51 with 6:22 remaining.

ECCC (6-8, 1-2) narrowed the gap to 65-57 with 4:43 left but could get no closer.

The Warriors got 14 points each from Marquis Wilson and Josh Luckett, 11 from Darron Maxtion, and eight from Walker.

Co-Lin got 20 points from Trent Hutchin, 18 from Greg Truvillion, 14 from Anthony Wilcher, 12 from Julius Blanks, nine from Lawanski Newsome, and eight from Corey London.

APPEARED IN:

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JUCO BASKETBALL

MONDAY'S RESULTS

Women

EAST CENTRAL 60, COPIAH-LINCOLN 59

Copiah-Lincoln (10-3) — Mason 22, Ellis 11, Bullock 9, Williams 5, Wilcher 3, Ward 3, Dumas 2, Thomas 2, Moncure 2.

East Central (12-1) — Jenkins 15, Brown 11, Dale 9, Matlock 7, Patterson 6, Evans 5, McAfee 5, Phillips 2.

Halftime — Copiah-Lincoln 34-33.

EAST MISS. 54, MISS. DELTA 44

East Miss. — Franklin 4, Love 9, White 18, Miller 9, Eades 9, Clave 2, Abrams 4.

Miss. Delta (3-10) — Ayers 7, Love 4, Scott 17, Lawson 16.

Halftime — East Miss. 25-17.

HOLMES 76, NORTHEAST MISS. 71

Northeast Miss. — Grayson 18, Crayton 15, Knupp 14, Welch 8, McNair 7, Ford 6, Wright 3.

Holmes (6-8) — Brown 17, Harris 14, Winfield 12, Anderson 8, McLin 6, O'Briaht 6, Bryant 5, Flanagan 4, Webster 4.

Halftime — Holmes 33-29.

NORTHWEST MISS. 80, COAHOMA 75

Coahoma — Taylor 5, Beamon 7, Kern 13, Johnson 6, Carr 5, Washington 14, Robinson 2, Hearon 16, Branch 7.

Northwest Miss. (6-7) — Rogers 2, Pointer 5, Fayne 2, Johnson 18, Burgess 4, Price 5, Martin 5, Thomas 22, Scott 5, Aker 5, Wilson 7.

Halftime — Coahoma 43-30.

PEARL RIVER 76, SOUTHWEST MISS. 63

Southwest Miss. (10-2) — Taylor 21, Griffin 11, Thompson 11, Wiltz 10, Brabham 4, Swindle 4, Patterson 2.

Pearl River (11-3) — Magee 24, Booth 22, Eady 9, Thomas 9, Lowe 8, Lee 2, Lewis 2.

Halftime — Pearl River 39-33.

MERIDIAN 83, JONES COUNTY 77

Jones County (8-6) — Tucker 16, Bolton 11, Booth 12, Carter 10, Ward 8, Leverette 6, Lewis 4, Hubbard 3, Mills 2.

Meridian (12-2) — Strickland 23, Wair 15, Hopkins 4, Babina 7, Anderson 11, Parker 23.

Halftime — Meridian 50-41.

Men

EAST MISS. 75, MISS. DELTA 69

East Miss. — Hill 18, James 9, Knox 2, Taylor 10, Little 8, Smith 14, Donald 2, Howard 12.

Miss. Delta (5-8) — McDaniel 19, Washington 6, Howard 15, Taylor 11, Causey 4, Malone 1, Wilson 6, Duke 3, Daniels 4.

Halftime — East Miss. 39-31.

NORTHEAST MISS. 93, HOLMES 80

Northeast Miss. — Burdette 29, Lee 24, Moore 12, Thomas 10, Luckett 8, D. Johnson 4, S. Johnson 2, Freeman 2, Wilbanks 2.

Holmes (10-4) — Banks 18, B. Brown 15, Boyd 14, Alexander 13, Powell 11, Cooper 7, Black 2.

Halftime — Northeast Miss. 48-30.

NORTHWEST MISS. 75, COAHOMA 67

Coahoma (7-9) — Jacks 9, Jones 11, Whitehead 6, Ward 2, Moore 4, Dancey 2, Washington 11, Carr 1, Cowan 21.

Northwest Miss. (6-10) — Green 2, Hilliard 4, Harris 24, Jones 2, Pegues 2, Haywood 28, Izonfue 3, Edwards 10.

Halftime — Northwest Miss. 33-28.

COPIAH-LINCOLN 81, EAST CENTRAL 70

Copiah-Lincoln (9-4) — Blanks 12, London 8, Hutchin 20, Newsome 9, Wilcher 14, Truvillion 18.

East Central (6-8) — Walker 8, Robinson 4, Jones 4, Lofton 4, Dickinson 2, Wilson 14, Langston 2, Maxtion 11, Luckett 14, Thompson 4, Parker 3.

Halftime — East Central 34-33.

PEARL RIVER 59, SOUTHWEST MISS. 56

Southwest Miss. (4-9) — Powell 18, Newton 11, Brumfield 10, Smith 6, Brown 4, Holloway 3, Ricard 3, Ward 1.

Pearl River (9-5) — Jackson 14, Smith 11, Hawkins 8, Sims 8, Porter 7, Weathers 5, Williams 3, Cain 2, Stewart 1.

JONES COUNTY 62, MERIDIAN 61

Jones County (6-8) — Marshall 13, Collins 12, Page 9, Woodland 9, Jones 9, McCullum 5, Burnett 5.

Meridian (8-6) — Huddleston 27, Thompson 12, Brown 2, Luckett 4, Williams 9, Shelwood 7.

Halftime — Meridian 27-24.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF Jan. 14

EC women suffer first loss; fall by 18

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors fell from the unbeaten ranks with a 75-57 loss to Itawamba Community College Thursday at Fulton.

The Lady Warriors, ranked 10th nationally at the time, fell to 9-1.

The EC men lost 77-59 to drop to 5-6.

After going to Jones County Junior College on Monday for their MACJC South Division openers, the EC teams return home to host Meridian Community College on Thursday.

Itawamba	**75**
EC women	**57**

Former Choctaw Central High School standout Mystee Dale led EC with 20 points in the loss to the Lady Indians.

Tawayatha Evans scored 13 points, Rashima Jenkins tossed in 12, and Tanesha Brown had eight for the Lady Warriors.

EC trailed 37-30 at halftime after the Lady Indians jumped out to an early 18-2 advantage.

Sanqueeta Meardith of Shannon led Itawamba, 6-7, with 22 points. The Lady Indians, who extended their win streak to five, also got 18 points from Courtney Cannon and 17 from Jasmine Larry.

Itawamba	**77**
EC men	**59**

The Indians, tied for No. 9 in the NJCAA poll coming into Thursday's contest, grabbed a 41-21 advantage over the first 20 minutes as they improved to 12-1.

Josh Luckett led the Warriors with 14 points.

at Itawamba

Marquis Wilson and Darron Maxtion scored seven apiece. Justin Brown tossed in six with Des Morales and Tony Parker getting five each.

Sergio Kerusch used a 13-of-14 shooting effort to lead Itawamba, 12-1, with 28 points. He also had seven rebounds.

The Indians also got 10 points each from Andre Crudup, Theron Jenkins, and Brock Anthony. Crudup also had a game-high six steals.

ICC's only loss was to Northwest Shoals in a 111-107 shootout in which the Alabama team made 13 3-point baskets.

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WEEK OF Jan. 14

EC Lady Warriors hang on to beat MCC

Special to The Record

Mystee Dale pumped in 25 points and Rashima Jenkins added 20 as the 13th ranked East Central Community College Lady Warriors held on for a 79-76 nail-biter over division rival Meridian Thursday night in Decatur.

With the win, East Central improved to 11-1 overall and 2-0 in the MACJC South Division, while the Lady Eagles dropped to 11-2 and 1-1.

East Central led by as many 14 points during first-half action and held a 37-28 advantage at the break. But MCC battled back in the second half and alternated leads with ECCC until Chotsani Henderson's two free throws gave the Lady Warriors a 77-71 advantage with 39 seconds remaining. However, the Lady Warriors made just two of six free throws in the game's final moments and MCC closed the gap to 79-76 with 10 seconds remaining. MCC was unable to convert a three-point play as time expired and EC held on for the hard-fought victory.

"We came out and played really good the first five or six minutes and got the 14-point lead," said Bill Smith, now is his third year as Lady Warrior head coach.

In addition to Dale, a 5-8 freshman forward from Choctaw Central, and Jenkins, a 5-9 freshman forward from Airline High School in Bossier City, other EC point makers were Alisa Matlock of Carthage, 10; Tawayatha Evans of New-

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ton, nine; and Henderson, also of Newton, six.

Jennifer Wair of Velma Jackson led MCC with 16 points.

In the men's contest, the Warriors were outscored 87-66 by the Eagles.

Josh Luckett of Carthage was top scorer for EC with 17 points. Also scoring were Marquis Wilson of Delhi, La., 16; Darron Maxtion, a product of Sparkman High School in Harvest, Ala., 10; and Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Newton County, nine.

EC trailed 42-29 at the break.

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

East Central Community College sophomore guard Jordan Patterson of Aberdeen drives past a Meridian Community College defender during the Lady Warriors' 79-76 win.

ECCC-Co-Lin

Another division matchup against a top-rated opponent went down to the wire for the 13th ranked East Central Community College Lady Warriors, who held on to defeat 17th ranked Copiah-Lincoln Community College 60-59 Monday night in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building in Decatur.

The ECCC women improved to 12-1 overall and 3-0 in division play following the narrow victory, while the Lady Wolves dropped to 10-3 and 1-2.

East Central began division action by posting nail-biting wins over Jones County (87-83) and Meridian (79-76).

Bill Smith, now is his third year as Lady Warrior head coach, was obviously relieved following the intense contest.

The "one more point" came on a basket by Choctaw Central product Mystee Dale who made the second of two free throws with 45 seconds remaining for the winning margin. Co-Lin missed three shots in the final 17 seconds and Lady Warrior Chotsani Henderson of Newton gathered in a rebound on the final attempt with five seconds remaining to preserve the victory.

EC was led in scoring by Rashima Jenkins, a product of Airline High School in Bossier City, who had 15 points. Also scoring were Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine, 11; Dale, nine; Alisa Matlock of Carthage, seven; Jordan Patterson of Oak Hill Academy, six; and Tawayatha Evans of Newton.

Co-Lin held a 34-33 advantage at the break.

In the men's contest, EC was unable to maintain its slim 34-33 halftime lead and fell 81-70 to the visiting Wolves.

Following the division loss, the Warriors dropped to 6-8 overall and 1-2 in league play under second year head coach Maurice Bowie. Co-Lin improved to 9-4 and 3-0.

EC point makers were Josh Luckett of Carthage and Marquis Wilson, a product of Delhi (La.) High School, 14 each; Darron Maxtion of Sparkman HS in Harvest, La., 11; and Devarus "Scooter" of Newton County, eight;

ECCC squads hit the road for the next two division matchups, first at Southwest Mississippi Community College in Summit on Thursday followed by another key contest Monday at Hinds Community College in Utica.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors host Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College on Thursday, Jan. 14.

WEEK OF Jan. 14

ECCC Lady Warriors Survive Another 'Close Encounter'

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EC was led in scoring by Rashima Jenkins, a product of Airline High School in Bossier City, who had 15 points. Also scoring were Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine, 11; Dale, nine; Alisa Matlock of Carthage, seven; Jordan Patterson of Oak Hill Academy, six; Tawayatha Evans of Newton and Alisha McAfee of Northwest Rankin, five each; and Allison Phillips of Leake Academy, two.

Alisha Mason of Enterprise pumped in 22 points to lead the Lady Wolves.

Co-Lin held a 34-33 advantage at the break.

In the men's contest, EC was unable to maintain its slim 34-33 halftime lead and fell 81-70 to the visiting Wolves.

Following the division loss, the Warriors dropped to 6-8 overall and 1-2 in league play under second year head coach Maurice Bowie. Co-Lin improved to 9-4 and 3-0.

EC point makers were Josh Luckett of Carthage and Marquis Wilson, a product of Delhi (La.) High School, 14 each; Darron Maxtion of Sparkman HS in Harvest, La., 11; Devarus "Scooter" of Newton County, eight; Karl Robinson of Jackson Jim Hill, Marico Jones and Rod Lofton, both of Forest, and Joe Thompson of Morton, four each; Tony Parker of Meridian, three; and Dre Dickinson of Meridian and Maurice Langston of Northeast Lauderdale, two each

Trent Hutchin of Baton Rouge led Co-Lin with 20 points.

ECCC squads hit the road for the next two division matchups, first at Southwest Mississippi Community College in Summit on Thursday followed by another key contest Monday at Hinds Community College in Utica.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors host Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College on Thursday, January 14.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF Jan. 14

Lady Warriors maintain league lead

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors picked up two more wins last week, while the Warriors turned in a 1-1 showing.

The EC women swept Jones Junior College and Meridian Community College to improve to 11-1 overall and 2-0 in the MACJC South Division.

The Warriors beat Jones, but lost to MCC. They entered the week 6-7 overall and 1-1 in league play.

After hosting Copiah-Lincoln Community College on Monday, EC will hit the road for games at Southwest Mississippi Community College on Thursday and at Hinds Community College on Jan. 21.

EC women	**87**
Jones	**83**

The Lady Warriors trailed most of the game, but rallied for the four-point win in their division opener at Ellisville on Jan. 7.

Jones led 43-28 with 4:55 to go in the first half on a basket by Kate Hubbard.

After EC closed to within 50-47 on a 3-pointer by Jordan Patterson with 40 seconds left in the half, the Lady Bobcats turned a Shasta Mills bucket into a 52-47 halftime advantage.

The Lady Warriors were looking at a 68-59 deficit with 12:46 to play. However, a 15-3 run put EC up 74-71 with six minutes remaining.

Jones reclaimed the lead at 79-77 with 3:48 showing, but Tawayatha Evans tied the game at 79 and Tanesha Brown drained a trey for an 82-79 EC lead with 2:05 left.

EC (10-1 overall, 1-0 division) got 23 points from Rashima Jenkins, 22 from Tanesha Brown, 12 each from Evans and Mystee Dale, and six from Alisa Matlock.

Hubbard led Jones (7-5 overall, 0-1 division) with 26 points, 22 of which came in the first half. Demara Bolton added 15, Kim Lewis had 11, and Mills had nine.

EC men	**73**
Jones	**67**

The Warriors outscored Jones 20-13 over the final seven minutes to come away with the win in the Jan. 7 contest at Ellisville.

EC took a 34-28 lead into halftime after scoring nine of the last 11 points of the first 20 minutes.

The Warriors took the game's largest lead at 39-30 when Tony Parker hit a 3-pointer with 18:30 left to play.

Jones answered with a 10-0 run to go up 40-39 with 15:17 remaining.

Trailing 54-53, EC used a 14-7 run to take control.

The Bobcats closed to within 67-65, but Devarus Walker's 3-pointer with 37 seconds left sealed the win.

Marquis Wilson led EC (6-6 overall, 1-0 division) with 17 points. Josh Luckett added 15, Darron Maxtion had 14, and Rod Lofton scored 11.

Trenton Marshall led Jones (4-8 overall, 0-1 division) with 25 points. Jonathan Woodland added 11.

EC women	**79**
Meridian	**76**

EC hit hard early and came away with Thursday's league win at Decatur.

The Lady Warriors scored the game's first six points and led 26-12 on a basket by Tawayatha Evans with 7:50 left in the opening half.

"We came out and played really good the first five or six minutes and got that 10-12 point lead," said EC coach Bill Smith. "The girls did a good job of coming out ready to play tonight."

Mystee Dale had 17 first half points for EC with Rashima Jenkins adding 12.

MCC closed to within 37-28 at halftime.

After MCC closed to within 44-41 on a basket by Jenia Babina with 15:26 to play, neither team would lead by more than four points until just 39 seconds remained.

Chotsani Henderson put EC up 77-71 with two free throws with 39 seconds left, but 2-of-6 free-throw shooting by the Lady Warriors over the final 29 seconds left MCC trailing only 79-76 with 10 seconds to go. MCC was unable to convert on its final possession, however.

EC improved to 11-1 overall and 2-0 in division play.

MCC fell to 11-2 and 1-1.

Dale led EC with 25 points, while Jenkins scored 20. The Lady Warriors also got 10 points from Alisa Matlock, nine from Evans, and six from Henderson.

MCC got 16 points from Jennifer Wair, 14 apiece from Maranda Anderson and NaDosha Strickland, and 10 from Tiara Parker.

Meridian	**87**
EC men	**66**

Regis Huddleston drained eight 3-point baskets in leading MCC with a game-high 33 points.

Huddleston had 12 points on four treys in the first half as the Eagles carried a 42-29 lead into halftime. Mario Luckett had 11 points in the first half.

MCC upped its lead to 56-34 in the first five minutes of the second half to take control.

EC closed to within 58-48 with 10:15 remaining, but the Eagles scored 13 of the next 18 points to extend their lead to 71-53 with seven minutes showing.

EC fell to 6-7 overall and 1-1 in the division.

MCC improved to 8-5 and 2-0.

EC got 17 points from Josh Luckett, 16 from Marquis Wilson, 10 from Darron Maxtion, and nine from Devarus Walker.

MCC also got 15 points each from Luckett and Reggie Shelwood and 12 from Otis Williams.

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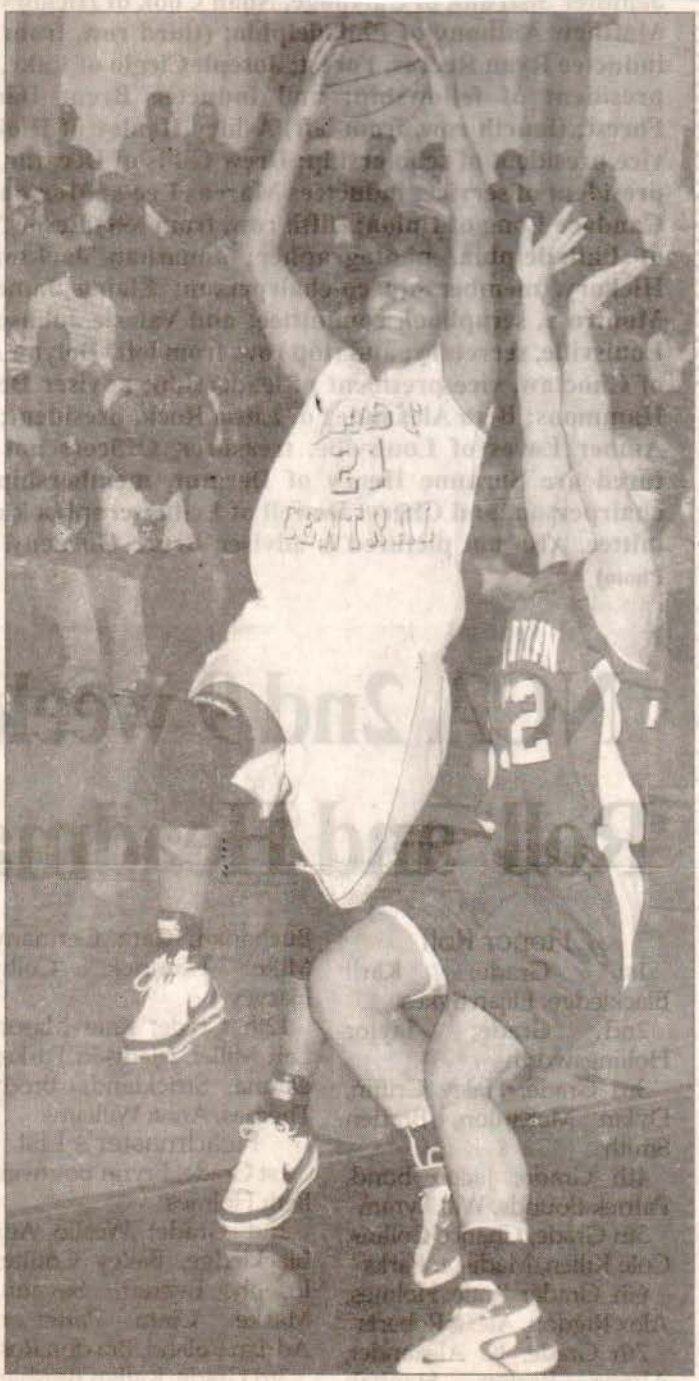

East Central's Mystee Dale (21) goes up for a basket in Thursday's 79-76 win over Meridian.

Photo by Marty Stamper

WEEK OF Jan. 21

JUCO BASKETBALL

MONDAY'S RESULTS

Women

SOUTHWEST MISS. 77, JONES COUNTY 73

Jones County — Bolton 20, Gray 3, Carter 9, Leverette 3, Tucker 7, Booth 3, Hubbard 15, Lewis 11.

Southwest Miss. (12-2) — Taylor 16, Thompson 1, Chatman 8, Wiltz 14, Patterson 2, Griffin 17, Swindle 10, Brabham 11.

Halftime — Jones County 38-29.

EAST CENTRAL 68, HINDS 56

East Central (13-2) — Jenkins 26, Phillips 2, Dale 11, Brown 12, McAfee 4, Evans 8.

Hinds (6-9) — Palmer 7, Williams 11, Harrison 6, Richardson 7, Wilson 2, Smith 6, Lewis 4, Page 11, Johnson 2.

Halftime — East Central 36-30.

MISS. DELTA 71, HOLMES 67

Holmes — Flanagan 5, Harris 7, K. Anderson 28, Bryant 11, V. Anderson 6, Brown 8, Winfield 2.

Miss. Delta (6-10) — Ayers 18, Jackson 3, Love 14, Warren 2, Scott 7, Lawson 27.

Halftime — Holmes 34-30.

MERIDIAN 86, PEARL RIVER 69

Pearl River (12-4) — Booth 19, Lewis 19, Thomas 12, Lowe 8, Magee 7, DeLasalle 2, Eady 2.

Meridian (13-3) — Strickland 22, Wair 12, Hopkins 6, Babins 3, Anderson 4, Parker 18, Biggs 6, Hirmke 2, Bryant 4, McMillian 2, Walker 2, Parker 2.

Halftime — Meridian 44-37.

Men

SOUTHWEST MISS. 79, JONES COUNTY 74

Jones County (7-9) — Marshall 30, L. McCullum 12, Buxton 9, Woodland 8, Bolton 6, Collins 4, Jones 3, Burnett 2.

Southwest Miss. (5-10) — Coleman 29, Powell 19, Brumfield 9, Smith 6, Brown 5, Moncree 4, Young 4, Newton 2, Holloway 1.

Halftime — Southwest Miss. 30-23.

MISS. DELTA 62, HOLMES 55

Holmes — Banks 4, Boyd 12, Moore 4, Alexander 5, Bell 2, Brown 23, Newman 3, Cooper 2.

Miss. Delta (8-8) — McDaniel 2, Washington 2, Howard 17, Allen 1, Taylor 15, Causey 3, Malone 2, Wilson 11, Duke 2, Daniels 7.

Halftime — Tied at 22.

HINDS 62, EAST CENTRAL 59

East Central — Walker 11, Jones 2, Lofton 2, Dickerson 2, Wilson 14, Maxtion 8, Luckett 17, Thompson 3.

Hinds — Winston 4, Watkins 6, Higgins 12, Harvey 11, Nelson 10, Robinson 12, Watson 7.

Halftime — Hinds 32-27.

MERIDIAN 68, PEARL RIVER 63

Pearl River (10-6) — Smith 17, Porter 13, Weathers 8, Jackson 7, Sims 7, Williams 4, Cain 2, Starks 2, Hawkins 3.

Meridian (9-7) — Huddleston 16, Thompson 12, Brown 4, Luckett 10, Williams 16, McCurtis 1, Shelwood 7.

Halftime — Meridian 33-29.

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WEEK OF Jan. 21

JUCO BASKETBALL

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

Women

EAST CENTRAL 73, MISS. GULF COAST 70

Miss. Gulf Coast (6-11) — Augustus 29, Palomarez 11, Schonberg 7, Ulmer 6, Woollard 3, Bounds 4, Johnson 3, Mackay 1.

East Central (13-2) — Jenkins 23, Dale 16, Brown 15, Evans 10, McAfee 7, Henderson 2.

Halftime — Miss. Gulf Coast 37-36.

ITAWAMBA 65, NORTHWEST MISS. 59

Itawamba — Shumpert 7, Cannon 10, Williamson 3, Meardith 20, Shannon 8, Collins 9, Larry 8.

Northwest Miss. (6-9) — Rogers 4, Pointer 13, Fayne 11, Johnson 6, Burgess 3, Thomas 9, Wilson 13.

Halftime — Itawamba 36-18.

EAST MISS. 59, HOLMES 49

Holmes — K. Anderson 14. Additional scoring info not reported.

East Miss. (9-8) — White 19. Additional scoring info not reported.

Halftime — East Miss. 31-24.

NORTHEAST MISS. 63, MISS. DELTA 59

Northeast Miss. — Welch 6, Ford 15, Cathey 10, Crayton 9, Wright 1, Grayson 16, Knupp 6.

Miss. Delta (6-11) — Ayers 16, Teague 3, Love 12, Thomas 2, Warren 2, Scott 8, Lawson 14, Overton 2.

Halftime — Northeast Miss. 33-28.

MERIDIAN 76, SOUTHWEST MISS. 70

Southwest Miss. (13-3) — Taylor 15, Brabham 11, Wiltz 10, Griffin 14, Swindle 8, Patterson 2, Thompson 8, Bryant 2.

Meridian (14-3) — Strickland 28, Wair 12, Babina 7, Parker 7, Biggs 4, Clayton 13, Hirmke 3, Bryant 2.

Halftime — Meridian 40-34.

PEARL RIVER 85, JONES COUNTY 78

Pearl River (13-4) — Magee 28, Thomas 18, Booth 15, Eady 8, Lowe 8, Lewis 6, Keys 2.

Jones County (9-8) — Bolton 25, Lewis 16, Leverett 13, Tucker 8, Hubbard 6, Mills 6, Carter 2, Ward 2.

Halftime — Pearl River 38-30.

COPIAH-LINCOLN 66, HINDS 53

Hinds (6-10) — Palmer 16, Johnson 16, Smith 3, Good 2, Richardson 2, Singleton 1, Page 5, Harrison 4, Trimble 4.

Copiah-Lincoln (12-4) — Bullock 15, Wilbert 4, Sandifer 5, Williams 5, Moncure 4, Thomas 3, Dumas 4, Mason 9, Wilcher 4, Ellis 7, Ward 6.

Halftime — Hinds 29-28.

Men

NORTHWEST MISS. 88, ITAWAMBA 82

Itawamba — Crudup 21, McKinney 6, Hadley 1, Brock 13, Marks 8, Johnson 12, Kerusch 21.

Northwest Miss. (7-11) — Green 3, Davis 3, Harris 9, Jones 10, Pegeus 15, Haywood 34, Izonfuo 6, Edwards 8.

Halftime — Northwest Miss. 49-38.

NORTHEAST MISS. 66, MISS. DELTA 63

Northeast Miss. — Bowen 6, S. Johnson 6, D. Johnson 1, Freeman 2, Lee 24, Luckett 4, Burdette 14, Moore 9.

Miss. Delta (8-9) — George 2, McDaniel 13, Washington 9, Allen 2, Taylor 10, Causey 4, Malone 2, Wilson 11, Daniels 10.

Halftime — Miss. Delta 36-30.

MS. GULF COAST 91, EAST CENTRAL 90, OT

Miss. Gulf Coast (11-6) — Nickson 15, Ray 35, Burnett 2, Suggs 10, Mosley 4, Franklin 10, Byron 15.

East Central (8-10) — Walker 18, Brown 5, Jones 2, Lofton 8, Dickinson 3, Wilson 18, Maxtion 10, Luckett 21, Thompson 2, Parker 3.

Halftime — East Central 33-31. **End of regulation** — Tied at 79.

EAST MISS. 74, HOLMES 71

Holmes — Brown 31. Additional scoring info not reported.

East Miss. (9-8) — Hill 13. Additional scoring info not reported.

Halftime — Tied at 37.

MERIDIAN 83, SOUTHWEST MISS. 67

Southwest Miss. (5-11) — Coleman 29, Brumfield 16, Powell 11, Brown 5, Smith 3, Newton 1, Holloway 2.

Meridian (10-7) — Huddleston 32, Thompson 10, Luckett 23, Williams 16, Dankwa 2.

Halftime — Meridian 35-33.

PEARL RIVER 73, JONES COUNTY 64, OT

Pearl River (11-6) — Smith 25, Weathers 15, White 12, Hawkins 6, Jackson 4, Stewart 3, Sims 2.

Jones County (7-10) — Marshall 23, L. McCullum 11, Jones 8, Woodland 8, Collins 7, Buxton 3, T. McCullum 3, Brown 1.

Halftime — Tied at 27. End of regulation — Tied at 58.

COPIAH-LINCOLN 66, HINDS 51

Hinds (4-12) — Nelson 14, Robinson 11, Casey 3, Watkins 2, Arnold 3, Higgins 4, Sumler 1, Harvey 5, Watson 8.

Copiah-Lincoln (12-4) — Hutchin 21, Truvillion 17, Blanks 7, London 8, Newsome 9, Wilcher 4.

Halftime — Copiah-Lincoln 39-25.

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WEEK OF Jan. 21

Lady Warriors tied for first in South

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors relinquished sole possession of first place in the MACJC South Division standings with an 82-69 loss at Southwest Mississippi Community College last week.

Both the Lady Warriors and Lady Bears are 4-1 in league play. The EC women are 12-2 overall.

The EC men lost to Copiah-Lincoln, but won at Southwest to enter the week with a 7-8 record.

After going to Hinds Community College on Monday, EC will host Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College on Thursday, then travel to Pearl River Community College on Jan. 28.

EC women	**60**
Copiah-Lincoln	**59**

Mystee Dale's free throw with 45.8 seconds left snapped a 59-59 tie as the Lady Warriors improved to 3-0 in the division and 12-1 overall with the Jan. 14 win at Decatur.

"We knew we'd probably be a little flat after our big win last week over Meridian. Co-Lin was coming off a tough loss to Southwest, so both teams were a little flat," EC coach Bill Smith said.

"Somehow or another, we were just fortunate enough to have one more point at the end than they did.

"It's another win and that's all that matters."

Down 14-8 early in the game, the Lady Warriors closed to within 34-33 at halftime behind eight points each from Dale, Rashima Jenkins, and Tanesha Brown.

In a turnover-plagued second half by both teams, the Lady Wolves pulled out to a 49-41 advantage on a basket by Alisha Mason with 13:46 remaining.

EC rallied to within 55-52 with just under eight minutes left on a 3-pointer by Jordon Patterson and a three-point play by Tawayatha Evans.

A putback basket by Jenkins cut the deficit to 55-54 with 7:22 left.

Alisa McAfee gave the Lady Warriors a 56-55 lead a minute later.

Co-Lin's Kristin Ellis tied the game at 59 with a basket in the lane with 1:37 showing.

Dale was fouled on an inbounds pass with 45.8 seconds left and made the second of two free throws for the winning margin.

Co-Lin missed three shots in the final 17 seconds and EC's Chotsani Henderson gathered a rebound with five seconds left and dribbled out the clock.

Jenkins led EC with 15 points. Brown scored 11, Dale had nine, Alisa Matlock seven, and Patterson six.

Mason led Co-Lin (9-3, 1-2) with 22 points. Ellis scored 11 and Reisha Bullock had nine.

Copiah-Lincoln	**81**
EC men	**70**

The league-leading Wolves outscored the Warriors 48-36 in the second half to improve to 9-3 overall and 3-0 in the South Division.

Despite trailing 28-19 at one point, EC took a 34-33 lead into halftime behind a balanced scoring attack that saw Devarus Walker score five points and five other Warriors get four.

In the second half, Co-Lin led by as many as 14 points at 65-51 with 6:22 remaining.

EC (6-8, 1-2) narrowed the gap to 65-57 with 4:43 left, but could get no closer.

The Warriors got 14 points each from Marquis Wilson and Josh Luckett, 11 from Darron Maxtion, and eight from Walker.

Co-Lin got 20 points from Trent Hutchin, 18 from Greg Truvillion, 14 from Anthony Wilcher, 12 from Julius Blanks, and nine from Lawanski Newsome.

Southwest	**82**
EC women	**69**

Southwest outscored EC in both halves to win Thursday's contest at Summit. Leading 35-29 at halftime, the Lady Bears outscored EC 47-40 over the final 20 minutes.

The win moved Southwest into a first-place tie in the South Division standings with EC.

The Lady Warriors (12-2 overall, 3-1 division) got a season-high 30 points from Tanesha Brown, 18 from Mystee Dale, eight from Tawayatha Evans, and five from Rashima Jenkins.

Southwest (11-2, 3-1) got 18 points from Phenicia Taylor, 13 from Erin Brabham, 12 from Kidra Chatham, and 11 from Hope Swindle.

EC men	**69**
Southwest	**67**

The Warriors outscored the Bears by a point in each half to take Thursday's division matchup in Summit.

EC took a 33-32 lead into halftime.

The Warriors, who improved to 2-2 in the South Division and 7-8 overall, got 20 points from Josh Luckett, 13 from Devarus Walker, 11 from Justin Brown, seven from Darron Maxtion, and six from Marquis Wilson.

Southwest (14-10, 0-4) got 18 points from Aubrey Coleman, 15 from Rodney Brumfield, and 13 from Otis Smith.

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Jan. 21

ECCC's Chotsani Henderson shoots against Co-Lin.
Photo by Marty Stamper

Jan. 21

EC Lady Warriors stumble at Southwest

By Robbie Robertson

The Newton Record

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors suffered their second loss of the season on the hardwood in a 13-point loss to Southwest Community College.

The Lady Warriors rebounded from Thursday's loss to post a 68-56 win over Hinds on Monday night to improve to 12-3 on the season.

It was the third loss in five contests for the Lady Warriors since returning from the Christmas break.

Both East Central teams will return to acton on Thursday when they host Gulf Coast Community College. Next week, EC will hit the road for a South Division contest against Pearl River before returning home on Thursday, Jan. 31 for a matchup with Jones.

Southwest women 82, ECCC 69

Five Lady Wolves scored in double figures as Southwest took a 13-point win over the Lady Warriors.

Southwest led 35-29 at the half and then outscored East Central 47-40 in the second-half to cruise to the win.

Tanesha Brown led the Lady Warriors with 30 points while Mystee Dale had 18 points.

The homestanding Lady Wolves improved to 11-2 with the win. Newton's Tawaytha Evans chipped in eight points.

See **HOOPS**, Page 2B

WEEK OF Jan. 21

Hoops

From Page 1B

ECCC women 68, Hinds 56

The Lady Warriors responded on Monday night with a 12-point win over visiting Hinds Community College.

After leading 36-30 at the half, the Lady Warriors outscored Hinds 32-26 in the second half to take the win.

Rashima Jenkins led the Lady Warriors with 26 points while Tanesha Brown had 17 points. Mystee Dale added 11 points while Tawaythà Evans had eight points.

ECCC men 69, Southwest 67

The East Central men climbed to within one game of .500 with a two-point win over homestanding Southwest Thursday night.

EC led 33-32 at the half and held on for the win.

Freshman Josh Luckett led East Central with 20 point while Newton County's Scooter Walker had 13 points, and Justin Brown 11. Darrion Maxiton added seven points while Marquis Wilson had six points.

Hinds men 62, ECCC 59

The Warriors suffered another tough loss, this one being a three-point defeat to the visiting Eagles Monday night.

After trailing by five at half, 32-27, the Warriors fought back to make it close at the end.

Josh Luckett led East Central with 17 points while Marquis Wilson added 14 points. Scooter Walker had 11 points and Darrion Maxiton chipped in eight.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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WEEK OF Jan. 28

SPORTS

www.meridianstar.com

Juco Basketball: Jones County at East Central

East Central sweeps Jones

By Marty Stamper
Special to The Star

DECATUR — Some teams have been compared to racehorses, others to fancy race cars.

But it was a "Scooter" that the East Central Community College Warriors rode in their 71-64 MACJC South Division win over Jones Junior College Thursday night as the teams began their second lap through the double round-robin league slate.

The ECCC Lady Warriors stayed atop the league standings with an 86-78 win in the opener.

In the men's contest, Devarus "Scooter" Walker, a product of nearby Newton County High School, scored 22 points to lead the Warriors past the Bobcats.

Walker was 7-of-11 from the floor, including a 4-of-6 effort from 3-point range to lead the Warriors as they improved to 8-11 overall and 3-5 in the division. He made all four of his free-throw attempts and had four rebounds and four assists.

"When I watched him play at Newton County, I knew that he had some special skills," ECCC coach Maurice Bowie said of the freshman guard. "He handles the ball, he distributes the ball, and he can score. That's a prominent point guard there.

"He's doing a great job of getting the team orchestrated and getting us involved in the offense. The best thing is he's coming back next year."

The Warriors also got 14 points from Darron Maxtion, 10 from Marquis Wilson, seven from Justin Brown, and six from Josh Luckett. Maxtion had eight rebounds with Wilson adding six.

"The last three ball games, we've lost by a total of six points," Bowie said. "It's tough when you get to the top and can't quite get over. We did a good job tonight of finishing the play and that's something I've told my team about."

The Warriors scored the last seven points of the first half to carry a 36-29 lead into intermission. It was a 3-pointer by Walker with three seconds showing that gave ECCC the seven-point cushion.

Another 3-pointer by Walker gave the Warriors a 48-41 lead with 11:08 to play, but a trey by Jones' Trenton Marshall cut the deficit to 48-46 with 10:08 remaining.

See **ECCC**
Page C3

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Jan. 28

ECCC

From Page C1

Walker's fourth trey extended ECCC's lead back to nine at 58-49 with 6:03 left.

The Bobcats closed to within 62-60 on a three-point play by Cortez Burnett with 2:30 to go, but Walker scored on a reverse layup and Wilson added a putback basket to up ECCC's lead to 66-60 with 1:28 to play.

Walker made all four of his free throws over the final 55 seconds to preserve the win.

Marshall led Jones (7-12, 3-5) with 16 points. Jonathan Woodland scored 15, Burnett had eight, and Danny Bolton added seven. Woodland claimed 17 rebounds, 10 coming on the offensive end.

East Central	**86**
Jones women	**78**

The Lady Warriors got 24 points each from Rashima Jenkins and Tanesha Brown as they improved to 16-2 overall and 7-1 in the division.

ECCC took a 53-36 lead into halftime behind 14 points from Jenkins, 13 each from Brown and Mystee Dale, and 11 from Tawayatha Evans.

Jones opened the second half with a 10-0 run with just over three minute elapsed.

ECCC then ran off 11 of the next 13 points to go up 64-48 on a 3-pointer by Brown with 12:51 showing.

Jones battled to within 78-75 on a three-point play by Consuela Tucker with 3:23 to go, but Jenkins made four free throws and made a steal as the Lady Warriors went up 82-75.

ECCC got 15 points from Evans, 13 from Dale, and six from Allison Phillips.

Jones (9-10, 2-6) got 16 points from Brittany Leverett, 13 each from Tucker and Demara Bolton, 10 from TeAnna Carter, and eight each from Deanna Booth and Kate Hubbard.

WEEK OF Jan. 28

Lady Warriors Improve To 15-2 Following Win

Men's Team Falls Short To Wildcats

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—The nationally ranked East Central Community College Lady Warriors improved to 15-2 overall and 6-1 in the MACJC South Division after posting a 63-53 decision over Pearl River Community College Monday night in Poplarville.

East Central, ranked 22nd in the latest NJCAA poll, also sits atop the division standings ahead of Meridian and Southwest, who are tied for second with 5-2 marks.

Freshman Rashima Jenkins, a 5-9 forward from Airline High School in

Bossier City, La., led EC in scoring with 26 points. She also had 11 rebounds. Also scoring were Mystee Dale of Choctaw Central, 15; Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine, 10; Tawayatha Evans of Newton, five; Alisha McAfee of Northwest Rankin, four; and Alison Phillips of Leake Academy, three.

Sherrion Thomas had 11 points to lead the Lady Wildcats, who dropped to 13-5 and 4-3.

EC held a 34-30 advantage at the break.

In men's action, the Warriors' rally from a 20-point deficit fell short as the Wildcats held on for a 70-67 victory.

East Central trailed 51-31 with 14:07 remaining and rallied with a 36-20 scoring run to close out the game.

Freshman Devarus "Scooter" Walker, a 6-foot guard from Newton County High School, had 23 points- including five treys- to lead the Warriors, who fell to 7-11 and 2-5.

Others point makers were Josh Luckett of Carthage, 13; ***Des Morales of Lake, eight***; ***Rod Lofton of Forest***, ***Joe Thompson of Morton***, Marquis Wilson of Delhi (La.) High School and Justin Brown of South Leake, five each; and Darrion Maxtion, a product of Sparkman High School in Harvest, Ala., three.

Donta Smith poured in 20 points to lead the Wildcats, who improved to 12-6 and 5-2.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors continue division play by hosting Jones County squads on Thursday, Jan. 31.

Women's action begins at 6 p.m. followed by the men's contest at 8 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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WEEK OF Jan. 28

Lady Warriors Defeat MCCC In Competitive Contest

Men's Warriors Take Tumble In Loss

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—Mystee Dale pumped in 25 points and Rashima Jenkins added 20 as the 13th ranked East Central Community College Lady Warriors held on for a 79-76 nail-biter over division rival Meridian Community College earlier this month before a packed crowd in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building in Decatur.

East Central led by as many 14 points during first-half action and held a 37-28 advantage at the break.

But MCC battled back in the second half and alternated leads with ECCC until Chotsani Henderson's two free throws gave the Lady Warriors a 77-71 advantage with 39 seconds remaining.

However, the Lady Warriors made just two of six free throws in the game's final moments and MCC closed the gap to 79-76 with 10 seconds remaining.

MCC was unable to convert a three-point play as time expired and EC held on for the hard-fought victory.

"We came out and played really good the first five or six minutes and got the 14-point lead," said Bill Smith, now is his third year as Lady Warrior head coach. "The girls did a good job of coming out ready to play tonight."

Other EC point makers were Alisa Matlock of Carthage, 10; Tawayatha Evans of Newton, nine; Henderson, also of Newton, six; Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine, five; and Allison Phillips of Leake Academy and Alisha McAfee of Northwest Rankin, two each.

Jennifer Wair of Velma Jackson led MCC with 16 points.

In the men's contest, the Warriors were outscored 87-66 by the visiting Eagles under second year head coach ***Maurice Bowie of Morton***.

Josh Luckett of Carthage was top scorer for EC with 17 points. Also scoring were Marquis Wilson of Delhi, La., 16; Darron Maxtion, a product of Sparkman High School in Harvest, Ala., 10; Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Newton County, nine; Justin Brown of South Leake, six; ***Rod Lofton of Forest***, three; Tony Parker of Meridian and Karl Robinson of Jackson Jim Hill, two each; and ***Joe Thompson of Morton***, one.

Regis Huddleston of Bay Springs led MCC with 33 points.

EC trailed 42-29 at the break.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

OTHER _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

IMPACT _____

WEEK OF Jan. 28

Lady Warriors all alone at the top

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

A pair of MACJC South Division wins last week were all it took to return the East Central Community College Lady Warriors to sole possession of first place in the league standings.

The Lady Warriors knocked off Hinds Community College and Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College to go to 5-1 in the division and 14-2 overall. They entered the week one game ahead of Pearl River Community College, Meridian Community College, and Southwest Mississippi Community College.

The EC men lost both of their games to fall to 2-4 in league play and 7-10 overall.

After going to Pearl River on Monday, EC returns home to host Jones Junior College on Thursday.

EC women	**68**
Hinds	**56**

The Lady Warriors outscored Hinds in both halves of the Jan. 21 contest at Utica.

EC took a 36-30 lead into halftime, then outscored the Lady Bulldogs 32-26 over the final 20 minutes.

Rashima Jenkins led EC (13-2 overall, 4-1 division) with 26 points. Tanesha Brown scored 17, Mystee Dale added 11, and Tawayatha Evans eight.

Hinds (6-9, 0-5) got 11 points each from Tateshia Page and Tiffany Williams.

Hinds	**62**
EC men	**59**

Hinds carried a 32-27 lead into halftime and held on for its first division victory.

EC got 17 points from Josh Luckett, 14 from Marquis Wilson, 11 from Devarus Walker, and eight from Darron Maxtion.

The Warriors fell to 7-9 overall and 1-4 in the division.

Hinds (3-12, 1-4) got 12 points each from Armon Higgins IV and Lazzare Robinson, 11 from Joshua Harvey, and 10 from Courtney Nelson.

EC women	**73**
Gulf Coast	**70**

The Lady Warriors outscored the Lady Bulldogs 37-33 in the second half of Thursday's game at Decatur to improve to 14-2 overall and 5-1 in league play.

Leading the Lady Warriors was Rashima Jenkins with 23 points. EC also got 16 points from Mystee Dale, 15 from Tanesha Brown, 10 from Tawayatha Evans, and seven from Alisha McAfee.

Keaundra Augustus led Gulf Coast (6-11, 2-4) with 29 points.

Gulf Coast led 37-36 at halftime.

Gulf Coast	**91**
EC men	**90**

A late basket by Curtis Nickson gave the Bulldogs the win in Thursday's overtime contest at Decatur.

EC fell to 7-10 overall and 2-4 in division play.

The Warriors led 33-31 at halftime. The teams were even at 79 at the end of regulation.

Josh Luckett led EC with 21 points. Devarus Walker and Marquis Wilson both scored 18, Darron Maxtion added 10, Rod Lofton eight, and Justin Brown five.

Justin Ray tossed in 35 points to lead Gulf Coast (11-6, 3-3).

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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WEEK OF Jan. 28

ECCC Lady Warriors – WTOK's 'Team of the Week'

The nationally ranked East Central Community College women's basketball team recently received "Team of the Week" honors from WTOK-TV in Meridian. The Lady Warriors are shown displaying a banner in recognition of the award, which was presented by WTOK sports director Lindsey Hall January 15 on campus. The Lady Warriors are ranked 11th in the latest NJCAA poll and sport a 12-1 overall record and 3-0 mark in the MACJC South Division following a 60-59 win over then nationally ranked Copiah-Lincoln Community College January 14 in Decatur. The Lady Warriors are led by head coach Bill Smith and assistant Blessing Chekwa. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF Jan. 28

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE PHOTO

ntral Lady Warrior Rashima Jenkins (#12), a product of -high School in Bossier City, La., makes two of her 23 points -70 win over Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College y night on the Decatur campus.

Lady Warriors improve to 15-2 after beating Pearl River

The nationally ranked East Central Community College Lady Warriors improved to 15-2 overall and 6-1 in the MACJC South Division after posting a 63-53 decision over Pearl River Community College Monday night in Poplarville.

East Central, ranked 22nd in the latest NJCAA poll, also sits atop the division standings ahead of Meridian and Southwest, who are tied for second with 5-2 marks.

Freshman Rashima Jenkins, a 5-9 forward from Airline High School in Bossier City, La., led EC in scoring with 26 points. She also had 11 rebounds. Also scoring were Mystee Dale of Choctaw Central, 15; Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine, 10; Tawayatha Evans of Newton, five; Alisha McAfee of Northwest Rankin, four; and Alison Phillips of Leake Academy, three.

Sherrion Thomas had 11 points to lead the Lady Wildcats, who dropped to 13-5 and 4-3.

EC held a 34-30 advantage at the break.

In men's action, the Warriors' rally from a 20-point deficit fell short as the Wildcats held on for a 70-67 victory.

East Central trailed 51-31 with 14:07 remaining and rallied with a 36-20 scoring run to close out the game.

Freshman Devarus "Scooter" Walker, a 6-foot guard from Newton County High School, had 23 points- including five treys- to lead the Warriors, who fell to 7-11 and 2-5.

Others point makers were Josh Luckett of Carthage, 13; Des Morales of Lake, eight; Rod Lofton of Forest, Joe Thompson of Morton, Marquis Wilson of Delhi (La.) High School and Justin Brown of South Leake, five each; and Darrion Maxtion, a product of Sparkman High School in Harvest, Ala., three.

Donta Smith poured in 20 points to lead the Wildcats, who improved to 12-6 and 5-2.

EC trailed 37-25 at halftime.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors continue division play by hosting Jones County squads on Thursday, Jan. 31. Women's action begins at 6 p.m. followed by the men's contest at 8 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

ECCC-Gulf Coast

Another close win kept the nationally ranked East Central Community College Lady Warriors in the top spot of the MACJC South Division standings. The East Central women, who are at number 22 in the latest NJCAA poll, held on to defeat Missis-

See **ECCC**, Page 2B

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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Jan. 28

ECCC

From Page 1B

sippi Gulf Coast Community College 73-70 Thursday night in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building in Decatur.

The ECCC women, led by third-year head coach Bill Smith, improved to 14-2 overall and 5-1 in division play, following the narrow victory, while the Lady Bulldogs dropped to 6-11 and 2-4.

EC was led in scoring by Rashima Jenkins, a product of Airline High School in Bossier City, who had 23 points. Also scoring were Mystee Dale of Choctaw Central, 16; Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine, 15; Tawayatha Evans of Newton, 10; Alisha McAfee, of Northwest Rankin, 7; and Chotsani Henderson of Newton, 2.

Keaundra Augustus of Patterson, La., pumped in 29 points to lead the Lady Bulldogs.

Gulf Coast held a 37-36 advantage at the break.

In the men's contest, EC fell 91-90 in overtime to the visiting Bulldogs on a last second shot by Curtis Nickson of Greene County, Ala.

The Warriors led 33-31 at the half. The score was tied 79-79 at the end of regulation.

Following the division loss, the Warriors dropped to 8-10 overall and 2-4 in league play under second year head coach Maurice Bowie. Gulf Coast improved to 11-6 and 3-3.

The Warriors were led by Josh Luckett of Carthage with 21 points. Other scorers included Devarius "Scooter" Walker of Newton County and Marquis Wilson, a product of Delhi High School in Delhi, La., 18 each; Darron Maxtion of Sparkman High School in Harvest, Ala., 10; Rod Lofton of Forest, 8; Justin Brown of South Leake, 5; Dre Dickinson and Tony Parker, both of Meridian, 3 each; and Marico Jones of Forest and Joe Thompson of Morton, 2 each.

Justin Ray of Gulport led the Bulldogs with 35 points.

WEEK OF Feb. 4

JUCO BASKETBALL

MEN

SOUTHWEST MISS. 84, PEARL RIVER 78

Pearl River (14-7) — Smith 29, Sims 13, Stewart 13, Hawkins 10, Weathers 6, Porter 2, White 2, Williams 2, Cain 1.

Southwest Miss. — Coleman 26, Powell 23, Smith 13, Brown 12, Ricard 6, Brumfield 2, Washington 2.

Halftime — PRCC 28-22. **End of regulation** — tied 70-70.

COPIAH-LINCOLN 70, EAST CENTRAL 57

East Central (8-13) — Walker 2, Lofton 9, Dickerson 2, Wilson 16, Maxtion 15, Luckett 10, Parker 3.

Copiah-Lincoln (15-5) — Blanks 7, Martin 3, London 18, Hutchins 15, Newsome 3, Wilcher 10, Truvillion 14.

Halftime — CLCC 34-21.

GULF COAST 89, HINDS 63

Mississippi Gulf Coast (14-7) — Nix 1, Ray 20, Barnett 6, Hall 9, Suggs 18, Mosley 8, Johnson 2, Nicholson 6, Byron 17, Ealey 2.

Hinds — Winston 12, Watkins 2, Ester 3, Higgins 15, Gaskins 2, Harper 3, Harvey 8, Nelson 8, Marbley 4, Robinson 6.

Halftime — MGCCC 43-26.

MERIDIAN 73, JONES COUNTY 72

Meridian (13-8) — Huddleston 25, Luckett 18, Williams 13, Thompson 11, McCurtis 6.

Jones County (8-13) — Marshall 33, McCullum 9, Jones 8, Collins 7, Burnett 4, Woodland 4, Burton 3, Page 2.

Halftime — JCJC 32-31.

COAHOMA 93, NORTHWEST MISS. 89

Northwest Mississippi (7-15) — Green 8, Harris 21, Jones 16, Pegues 12, Haywood 13, Jennings 4, Edwards 15.

Coahoma — Jacks 3, McPherson 1, Jones 29, Whitehead 11, Dancey 8, Washington 13, Carr 12, Cowan 10, Moody 6.

Halftime — Coahoma 46-37.

WOMEN

EAST MISSISSIPPI 58, MISS. DELTA 51

Mississippi Delta — Scott 12, other individual scoring not available.

East Mississippi — Eades 16, other individual scoring not available.

Halftime — EMCC 30-23.

MERIDIAN 97, JONES COUNTY 87

Meridian (18-3) — Wair 24, T. Parker 12, Strickland 37, Biggs 4, Clayton 5, Williams 2, Parker 13.

Jones County (10-11) — Graham 2, Bolton 21, Carter 12, Gray 3, Hubbard 19, Mills 1, Lewis 9, Tucker 6, Booth 14.

Halftime — MCC 58-35.

SOUTHWEST MISS. 63, PEARL RIVER 54

Pearl River (15-6) — Magee 18, Thomas 12, Lowe 7, Eddy 5, Lewis 5, Booth 3, Thompson 2.

Southwest Miss. (14-5) — Brabham 16, Taylor 14, Wiltz 12, Griffin 10, Swindle 9, Patterson 2.

Halftime — SMCC 26-21.

HINDS 58, GULF COAST 51

Mississippi Gulf Coast (7-14) — Augustus 8, Ulmer 6, Johnson 1, Palomarez 11, McKay 9, Schonberg 16.

Hinds (7-13) — Wilson 7, Williams 3, Richardson 4, Harrison 19, Page 12, Palmer 5, Singleton 6, Trimble 2.

Halftime — MGCCC 26-24.

COPIAH-LINCOLN 78, EAST CENTRAL 43

East Central (17-4) — Coleman 3, Jenkins 12, Dale 10, Brown 7, Patterson 6, Evans 4, Henderson 1.

Copiah-Lincoln (15-5) — Wilbert 2, Williams 10, Moncure 5, Thomas 5, Dumas 2, Mason 9, Wilcher 4, Ellis 17, Bullock 18, Ward 6.

Halftime — CLCC 33-19.

COAHOMA 76, NORTHWEST MISS. 70

Northwest Mississippi (8-11) — Rogers 10, Pointer 6, Payne 8, Johnson 17, Thomas 12, Scott 2, Wilson 15.

Coahoma — Taylor 6, Beamon 5, Kern 17, Johnson 21, Carr 6, Washington 6, Branch 9, Hearon 6.

Halftime — tied 29-29. **End of regulation** — tied 63-63.

JUCO BASKETBALL

LATE RESULTS

Women

MERIDIAN 81, EAST CENTRAL 55

Meridian (17-3) — Strickland 32, Wair 4, Babina 1, T. Parker 20, Williams 2, Clayton 5, Walker 1, D. Parker 16.

East Central (16-3) — Dale 21, Jenkins 7, Evans 17, Henderson 2, Phillips 1, McAfee 3, Brown 4.

Halftime — Meridian 44-25

Men

MERIDIAN 63, EAST CENTRAL 61

Meridian (12-8) — Huddleston 30, Brown 5, Luckett 10, Williams 8, McCurtis 7, Dankwa 1.

East Central (10-10) — Luckett 8, Walker 22, Parker 2, Maxtion 14, Brown 8, Lofton 3, Thompson 1, Moales 2, Dickerson 1.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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Feb 4

Statement maker

Lady Eagles roll in league showdown of two nationally-ranked squads

By Brandon Walker
assistant sports editor

MCC **81**

ECCC **55**

In the midst of his eighth season in charge of the Meridian Community College Lady Eagles, head coach Hilary Allen was the first to admit Monday night was a special night.

In his tenure with the Lady Eagles, Allen has won more than 100 games, a pair of conference championships and currently has the Lady Eagles at No. 25 in the latest NJCAA national poll.

Still, even Allen himself can't remember a better performance from his Lady Eagles than Monday night's showing.

Playing host to No. 16 East Central at Graham Gymnasium, the Lady Eagles roared out to a 44-25 halftime lead en route to a convincing 81-55 victory over the Lady Warriors.

"It's the best game we've played since I've been at Meridian," Allen remarked after the 26-point win. "I thought we played well in all facets of the game against very good competition, which is the most exciting thing to me."

After a back-and-forth start between a pair of evenly-matched teams, Meridian began to pull away at the midway point of the first half. Leading 28-24 after 15 minutes, Meridian followed the lead of sophomore NaDosha Strickland, who scored 12 straight points to spark a 16-1 run over the final 4 minutes of the first half.

The scoring burst gave Strickland a game-high 18 points at halftime and stretched MCC's cushion to 19 points.

"That's just what she does," Allen said of the former Bay Springs standout. "She is a heck of a player who really hates to lose, so she has the ability to put us on her back when we need it."

Strickland didn't let up after the break, adding 14 for a game-high 32 points on the night.

Meridian's Tiara Parker also had a hot hand on the night with 20 points while guard Dana Parker added 14 on four-of-five shooting from 3-point range.

The lead remained at 19 through the first 5 minutes of the second half until Strickland and Parker connected on back-to-back treys to push the lead to 25 points at 59-34.

"Dana and Tiara both gave us great efforts tonight on offense," Allen said. "And defensively, the entire team was fantastic. Our ball pressure was outstanding."

MCC's defense forced the normally sure-handed Lady Warriors into a season-high of 22 turnovers. For East Central, Mystee Dale scored 21 points to

See **MCC**
Page B3

PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

ALL-OUT HUSTLE

Meridian Community College's Dana Parker saves an outgoing ball as she throws it against East Central Community College's Mystee Dale during Monday night action at MCC's Graham Gymnasium.

WEEK OF Feb. 4

THE MERIDIAN STAR
Tuesday, February 5, 2008

MCC

From Page B1

lead the way while Tawayatha Evans added 16.

With the win, MCC forged a tie atop the MACJC South Division standings with East Central with both teams now owning 7-2 marks in division play.

"Make no mistake, East Central is the team to beat in our division and we really wanted to make a statement that we can play well at home against top-notch competition," Allen stated. "I think we did exactly that."

Overall, Meridian moved to 17-3 on the year. MCC will travel to meet Jones County Thursday night.

Meridian men	**63**
East Central	**61**

Meridian's Eagles completed the sweep in Monday's nightcap, outlasting East Central by two points to improve to 12-8 overall and 6-3 in MACJC South Division play.

The Eagles utilized a 30-point outing from guard Regis Huddleston to hang on for the win.

Huddleston, who has averaged 19 points on the season, scored a game-high 20 second-half points to lead the Eagles.

Behind Huddleston's 30, Mario Luckett added 10 and Otis Williams chipped in eight for the Eagles.

For East Central, now 10-10 overall and 3-6 in division play, Davarius Walker scored 22 points while Darren Maxtion contributed 14.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

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IMPACT _____

Tuesday

WEEK OF 2-11-08

JUCO BASKETBALL

MONDAY'S RESULTS

Women

EAST CENTRAL 85, SOUTHWEST MISS. 68

Southwest Miss. (14-6) — Smith 20, Thompson 11, Taylor 10, Bradham 8, Willis 7, Patterson 5, Swindle 2, Bryant 2, Chatman 1.

East Central (17-4) — Jenkins 26, Dale 13, Brown 12, Evans 9, Patterson 5, Phillips 4, McAfee 4, Williams 3, Henderson 2.

Halftime — East Central 30-29.

ITAWAMBA 73, EAST MISS. 36

East Miss. (10-11) — Lowe 2, Franklin 4, Bush 8, Miller 7, Clark 5, Abrams 2, Brown 2, Stallings 6.

Itawamba (14-6) — Shurbert 10, Shannon 5, Cannon 6, Meardith 9, Collins 14, Bowling 9, Anderson 2, Larry 13, Benford 4.

Halftime — Itawamba 38-16.

JONES COUNTY 71, MISS. GULF COAST 70

Jones County — Bellon 11, Graham 2, Gray 6, Carter 8, Leverette 10, Tucker 14, Booth 3, Hubbard 14, Mills 4, Lewis 10.

Miss. Gulf Coast (7-18) — Taylor 4, Augustus 24, Mackay 3, Stidman 2, Johnson 2, Schonberg 10, Palomarez 16.

Halftime — Jones County 45-37.

NORTHWEST MS. 73, NORTHEAST MS. 69, OT

Northeast Miss. (19-7) — Walton 10, Ford 8, Cathey 10, Crayton 22, Wright 2, Grayson 14.

Northwest Miss. (9-17) — Rippee 13, Pointer 10, Payne 3, Johnson 18, Burgess 3, Martin 4, Thomas 16, Scott 6.

Halftime — Northeast Miss. 27-34. End of regulation — Tied at 62.

PEARL RIVER 90, HINDS 63

Hinds (7-14) — Johnson 23, Singleton 19, Harrison 6, Palmer 6, Trimble 2, Williams 3, Page 2, Good 1, Lewis 1, Richardson 1.

Pearl River (16-6) — Magee 26, Booth 17, Archer 16, Thomas 16, Lowe 6, Lee 3, DeLoselle 2, Easley 2, Keys 2.

Halftime — Pearl River 45-30.

COAHOMA 66, MISS. DELTA 55

Coahoma — Beamon 2, Kerr 13, Banks 3, Johnson 17, Carr 4, Washington 5, Branch 9, Hearod 5.

Miss. Delta (7-15) — Ayers 7, Fraser 3, Jackson 3, Love 15, Thomas 2, Wilson 2, Warren 3, Scott 15, Lawson 5.

Halftime — Miss. Delta 35-33.

MERIDIAN 83, COPIAH-LINCOLN 77

Copiah-Lincoln (15-6) — Ellis 23, Bullock 12, Ward 6, Moncure 8, Mason 14, Wilcher 7, Dumas 3, Williams 4.

Meridian (19-3) — Strickland 32, Wair 28, Hopkins 4, D. Parker 10, T. Parker 7, Biggs 2, Williams 2, Clayton 6.

Halftime — Meridian 39-34.

Men

EAST CENTRAL 72, SOUTHWEST MISS. 71

Southwest Miss. (7-14) — Brown 7, Coleman 36, Brumfield 10, Powell 24, Moore 6.

East Central (9-12) — Walker 6, Morales 6, Brown 4, Lofton 6, Dickinson 2, Wilson 20, Maxtion 13, Luckett 10, Parker 5.

Halftime — East Central 40-35.

NORTHEAST MS. 87, NORTHWEST MS. 69

Northeast Miss. (14-8) — Bowen 6, S. Johnson 7, Knight 3, D. Johnson 3, Lee 22, Thomas 2, Luckett 10, Burdett 25, Willbanks 7.

Northwest Miss. (7-16) — Hilliard 2, Harris 24, Jones 10, Pegues 4, Haywood 12, Jennings 5, Ikonfuo 6, Edwards 8.

Halftime — Tied at 30.

HINDS 84, PEARL RIVER 82, OT

Hinds (4-17) — Higgins 22, Winston 19, Nelson 18, Ester 9, Marbley 6, Watson 4, Arnold 2, Harper 2, Wilson 2.

Pearl River (14-8) — Weathers 24, Smith 18, Sims 13, Hawkins 8, Jackson 8, Stewart 4, White 3, Cain 2, Porter 2.

Halftime — Tied at 31. End of regulation — Tied at 70.

MISS. DELTA 72, COAHOMA 70, OT

Coahoma — Jacks 14, McPherson 3, Jones 15, Whitehead 11, Moore 2, Washington 9, Carr 2, Cowan 14.

Miss. Delta (12-10) — McDaniel 17, Washington 5, Howard 13, Taylor 20, Causey 4, Malone 3, Wilson 7, Daniels 3.

Halftime — Coahoma 29-15. End of regulation — Tied at 60.

ITAWAMBA 74, EAST MISS. 57

East Miss. (10-11) — James 6, Howard 11, Hill 11, Knox 3, Taylor 9, Donald 2, Little 5, Smith 8, Lee 2.

Itawamba (20-2) — Word 2, Pierce 2, Crudup 17, Brock 12, Marks 12, Jenkins 3, Johnson 8, Kerusch 18.

Halftime — Itawamba 37-29.

MERIDIAN 83, COPIAH-LINCOLN 77

Copiah-Lincoln (16-6) — Hutchin 22, Truvillion 25, Wilcher 17, London 4, Blanks 5, Bass 4.

Meridian (14-8) — Huddleston 29, Thompson 2, Brown 2, Luckett 6, Williams 34, Dankwa 3, McCurtis 7.

Halftime — Meridian 47-43.

JUCO BASKETBALL

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

Women

EAST CENTRAL 103, HINDS 57

Hinds (7-15) — Singleton 11, Wilson 11, Harrison 8, Smith 9, Johnson 6, Williams 5, Palmer 3, Richardson 2, Page 2.

East Central (18-4) — Jenkins 26, Phillips 18, Coleman 11, Dale 9, Sanders 8, Patterson 8, Evans 7, Wiggins 6, Brown 6, McAfee 4.

Halftime — East Central 49-24.

NORTHEAST MISS. 70, EAST MISS. 59

Northeast Miss. — Crayton 27. Additional scoring not reported.

East Miss. (10-12) — Eades 11. Additional scoring not reported.

Halftime — Northeast Miss. 38-23.

COPIAH-LINCOLN 71, MISS. GULF COAST 63

Miss. Gulf Coast (7-16) — Taylor 3, Augustus 17, Ulmer 2, Mackay 3, Stidman 15, Johnson 1, Woullard 7, Schonberg 15.

Copiah-Lincoln — Wilbert 6, Sandifer 5, Williams 9, Moncure 7, Thomas 3, Dumas 12, Mason 4, Wilcher 3, Ellis 6, Bullock 17.

Halftime — Copiah-Lincoln 30-25.

MERIDIAN 72, PEARL RIVER 71

Meridian (20-3) — Strickland 16, D. Parker 16, Parker 11, Wair 11, Clayton 9, Hopkins 4, Williams 3, McMillian 2.

Pearl River (16-7) — Magee 24, Thomas 14, Lowe 9, Eady 7, Lewis 7, Booth 4, Anchor 2.

Halftime — Pearl River 40-33.

HOLMES 68, MISS. DELTA 47

Miss. Delta — Ayers 12, Lawson 12, Warren 8, Thomas 6, Scott 5, Love 4.

Holmes (9-12) — K. Anderson 20, Harris 15, Brown 12, Winfield 10, O'Briant 4, Flanagan 3, Wiggins 2, Bryant 2.

Halftime — Holmes 34-20.

Men

MERIDIAN 82, PEARL RIVER 77

Meridian (15-8) — McCurtis 21, Huddleston 19, Luckett 17, Brown 7, Thompson 7, Williams 7.

Pearl River — Sims 25, Smith 25, Jackson 16, Weathers 7, Stewart 2.

Halftime — Pearl River 37-35.

HOLMES 66, MISS. DELTA 61

Miss. Delta — Wilson 21, Taylor 12, McDaniel 12, Howard 7, Malone 4, George 3, Causey 2.

Holmes (14-7) — Boyd 19, Banks 11, Newman 9, Moore 8, Bell 8, Black 6, Alexander 3, Brinson 2.

Halftime — Holmes 36-27.

EAST CENTRAL 71, HINDS 68

Hinds (5-16) — Nelson 21, Ester 18, Winston 10, Watkins 7, Harvey 4, Watson 4, Arnold 2, Coleman 2.

East Central (10-13) — Luckett 21, Walker 9, Maxtion 9, Wilson 13, Lofton 8, Dickinson 5, Morales 2, Thompson 2, Parker 2.

Halftime — East Central 38-27.

COPIAH-LINCOLN 70, MISS. GULF COAST 63

Miss. Gulf Coast (14-9) — Ray 18, Bryon 14, Suggs 12, Hall 9, Nickson 6, Burnett 4.

Copiah-Lincoln — Hutchin 21, Truvillion 20, Wilcher 13, Blanks 6, London 6, Martin 4.

Halftime — Copiah-Lincoln 33-20.

NORTHEAST MISS. 90, EAST MISS. 76

Northeast Miss. — Lee 32. Additional scoring not reported.

East Miss. (10-12) — Hill 15. Additional scoring not reported.

Halftime — East Miss. 44-43.

ITAWAMBA 91, COAHOMA 88

Itawamba (21-2) — Crudup 2, McKinney 16, Brock 21, Marks 2, Word 5, Jenkins 4, Johnson 22, Kerusch 19.

Coahoma (10-13) — Jacks 15, McPherson 4, Jones 17, Whitehead 18, Moore 2, Washington 11, Cowan 21.

Halftime — Itawamba 50-44.

APPEARED

CARTHAGI

SCOTT CO

UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

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OTHER

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT

NEWTON RECORD

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER ✓

IMPACT

WEEK OF 2-11-08

ECCC sweeps Southwest

East Central Community College's Lady Warriors snapped a two-game skid with an 85-66 thumping of the Southwest Community College Lady Bears and the Warriors held on for a 72-71 decision over the Bears Monday night in Decatur.

The 24th ranked Lady Warriors improved to 17-4 overall and 8-3 in league play.

Rashima Jenkins led EC in scoring with 26 points. Choctaw Central product Mystee Dale also had a productive evening with 20 points.

Other scorers were Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine, 12; Tawayatha Evans of Newton, nine; Jordan Patterson of Oak Hill Academy, five; Alisha McAfee of Northwest Rankin and Allison Phillips of Leake Academy, four each; Nicole Williams of Newton, three; and Chotsani Henderson, also of Newton, two.

EC held a commanding 50-29 lead at halftime.

In the men's contest, Southwest's Phillip Brown missed a shot in the final seconds and Warrior Justin Brown got the rebound as ECCC held on for the victory.

EC was led by Marquis Wilson who had 20 points.

Other point makers were Darron Maxtion, a product of Sparkman High School in Harvest, Ala., 13; Josh Luckett of Carthage, 10; Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Newton County, Des Morales of Lake and Rod Lofton of Forest, six each; Tony Parker of Meridian, five; Brown, of South Leake, four; and Dre Dickinson of Meridian, two.

EC led 42-35 at the break.

ECCC squads will host Hinds Community College

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Hoops

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Thursday night and travel to Gulf Coast Monday. The final regular season games are set for Thursday, Feb. 21 against Pearl River.

ECCC-Co-Lin

The Lady Warriors suffered a second-straight setback Thursday night, falling 78-43 to the Copiah-Lincoln Community College women on the Wesson campus.

East Central dropped to 16-4 overall and 7-3 in the MACJC South Division.

In EC's loss to Co-Lin, Rashima Jenkins was the top scorer with 12 points. Also scoring were Mystee Dale of Choctaw Central, 10; Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine, seven; Jordon Patterson of Oak Hill Academy, six; Tawaytha Evans of Newton, four; Sha Coleman of Newton County, three; and Chotsani Henderson of Newton, one.

In the men's game, EC was outscored 70-57 by the homestanding Wolves.

Marquis Wilson had 16 points to lead the Warriors, who fell to 8-13 and 3-7.

Other point makers were Darron Maxtion of Sparkman High School in Harvest, La., 15; Josh Luckett of Carthage, 10; Rod Lofton of Forest, nine; Tony Parker of Meridian, three; and "Scooter" Walker of Newton County and Dre Dickinson of Meridian, two each.

WEEK OF 2-11-08

ECCC women suffer lopsided losses

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

It was a non-productive week on the hardwood for the East Central Community College basketball teams as both the Warriors and Lady Warriors went 0-2.

The Lady Warriors were hammered 81-55 by Meridian Community College, then thumped 78-43 by Copiah-Lincoln Community College in road action.

The Warriors lost 63-61 to MCC and 70-57 to Co-Lin.

After hosting Southwest Mississippi Community College on Monday, the EC teams will host Hinds Community College on Thursday. They hit the road on Feb. 18 to face Gulf Coast before closing out the regular season at home on Feb. 21 against Pearl River.

Meridian	**81**
EC women	**55**

In a battle of nationally-ranked teams, the Lady Warriors were no match for the MCC Lady Eagles on Feb. 4 at Meridian.

EC, which was ranked No. 18 at the time, fell to 16-3 overall and 7-2 in the division with the loss. MCC, No. 25, improved to 17-3 and 7-2.

MCC carried a 44-25 lead into halftime after outscoring EC 16-1 over the final four minutes of the half.

EC got 21 points from Mystee Dale and 16 from Tawayatha Evans.

NaDosha Strickland led MCC with 32 points.

Meridian	**63**
EC men	**61**

The Warriors dropped yet another heartbreaker as they fell by two points on Feb. 4.

Devarus Walker tossed in 22 points to lead the Warriors, who fell to 8-12 overall and 3-6 in division play.

EC also got 14 points from Darron Maxtion.

Reggie Huddleston led MCC (12-8, 6-3) with 30 points.

Co-Lin	**78**
EC women	**43**

The Lady Wolves jumped out to a 33-19 halftime lead in Thursday's game at Wesson. A 21-7 scoring run after the game was tied at 12 enabled Co-Lin to pull away.

EC (16-4, 7-3) got 12 points from Rashima Jenkins, 10 from Mystee Dale, seven from Tanesha Brown, and six from Jordon Patterson. Jenkins also had 10 rebounds.

Co-Lin (15-5, 6-4) got 18 points from Reisha Bullock, 17 from Kristin Ellis, 10 from Yashunda Williams, and nine from Alisha Mason.

Co-Lin	**70**
EC men	**57**

The Warriors also fell way behind over the first 20 minutes as the division-leading Wolves took a 34-21 lead into halftime.

EC (8-13, 3-7) got 16 points from Marquis Wilson, 15 from Darron Maxtion, 10 from Josh Luckett, and nine from Rod Lofton.

Co-Lin (15-5, 9-1) got 18 points from Corey London, 15 from Trent Hutchin, 14 from Greg Truvillion, and 10 from Anthony Wilcher.

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WEEK OF 2-11-08

EC Lady Warriors, Warriors post wins over Southwest

East Central Community College's nationally ranked Lady Warriors snapped a two-game skid with an 85-66 thumping of the Southwest Community College Lady Bears and the Warriors held on for a 72-71 decision over the Bears in MACJC South Division action Monday night in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building in Decatur.

Head coach Bill Smith was obviously pleased with the performance of the 24th ranked Lady Warriors, who improved to 17-4 overall and 8-3 in league play.

"We needed a good win," Smith said following the easy victory which avenged an earlier 82-69 setback to the Southwest women. "I thought we played pretty well the first half. We shot the ball well and did some things against their zone that we did not do the first game with them. We hit shots tonight and they didn't."

Rashima Jenkins, a 5-9 freshman forward and product of Airline High School in Bossier City, La., led EC in scoring with 26 points. Choctaw Central product Mystee Dale, also a freshman forward at 5-8, also had a productive evening with 20 points.

Other scorers were Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine, 12; Tawayatha Evans of Newton, nine; Jordan Patterson of Oak Hill Academy, five; Alisha McAfee of Northwest Rankin and Allison Phillips of Leake Academy, four each; Nicole Williams of Newton, three; and Chotsani Henderson, also of Newton, two.

Kimberly Griffin of Woodville had 20 points to lead Southwest, which fell to 14-6 and 6-5.

In the men's contest, Southwest's Phillip Brown missed a shot in the final seconds and Warrior Justin Brown got the rebound as ECCC held on for the victory.

"Any time you can get a win like that off a defensive stop, that just solidifies what we've been trying to do all year," said second-year head coach Maurice Bowie whose Warriors were once again involved in a close contest.

"Luckily we were able to hold on to the ball, get a jump, and win the ball game."

EC was led by Marquis Wilson, a 6-6 sophomore forward of Delhi, La., who had 20 points.

Other point makers were Darron Maxtion, a product of Sparkman High School in Harvest, Ala., 13; Josh Luckett of Carthage, 10; Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Newton County, Des Morales of Lake and Rod Lofton of Forest, six each; Tony Parker of Meridian, five; Brown, of South Leake, four; and Dre Dickinson of Meridian, two.

Aubrey Coleman of Houston, Texas, had 26 point to lead Southwest, which fell to 7-14 and 3-8.

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WEEK OF 2-11-08

East Central 103
Hinds women 57

Reshima Jenkins scored a season-high 26 points as East Central's Lady Warriors dominated from the outset in a 46-point win over visiting Hinds Thursday night.

The Lady Warriors raced out to a 49-24 halftime lead and never looked back in the blowout victory.

Behind the 26-point showing from Jenkins, Alison Phillips added 18 points and Shay Coleman reached double figures with 11. Mystee Dale scored nine points while Jaleesa Sanders and Jordon Patterson each added eight.

For Hinds, Deaundria Singleton led the way with 11 points.

With the win, ECCC improved to 18-4 on the season.

— Brandon Walker

East Central 71
Hinds men 68

In the nightcap, East Central's Warriors sprinted out to a 38-27 halftime lead and held off a furious Hinds rally to earn a 3-point win. With the win, ECCC improved to 10-13 on the season while Hinds fell to 5-16.

For East Central, Josh Luckett scored 21 to lead the way, followed by Marquis Wilson with 13, Devarius Walker and Darren Maxtion with nine apiece and Rod Lofton with eight.

Courtney Nelson scored 21 to pace Hinds.

— Brandon Walker

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WEEK OF 2-11-08

Juco Baseball

Busy weekend lies ahead for Meridian and East Central

By Brandon Walker
assistant sports editor

Central Mississippi will be a hotbed of junior college baseball activity this weekend, with a pair of area events kicking off this afternoon.

With the juco baseball season just a few weeks old, the Meridian Community College Eagles and East Central Warriors will each play host to early-season events this weekend.

In Meridian, the 1-3 Eagles will welcome in five teams to Scaggs Field as part of the 2008 Rush Tournament. A trio of games twill take place both today and Saturday before a tournament-ending doubleheader Sunday afternoon.

The event will open today at noon, when the homestanding Eagles will play a pair of games back-to-back to kick off the festivities.

MCC will take the field against Southeastern (Iowa) at noon before squaring off with Wabash (Ill.) Valley at 3 p.m.

In the nightcap, Wabash will remain on the field to take on Wallace-Hanceville (Ala.) in a nine-inning matchup.

MCC will take the day off Saturday as Wallace-Hanceville starts the day's activity with an 11 a.m. tilt against Southeastern. Pearl River will close Saturday with a 3 p.m. meeting with Wabash before a 6 p.m. clash with Southeastern.

On Sunday, MCC will close the event with a double dip against Southeastern and Wabash, with first pitch scheduled for noon.

In Decatur, East Central's defending state champion Warriors will be just as busy, welcoming in a field of seven teams for the ECCC Invitational.

The Warriors will lead off the three-day event this morning, taking on Kaskaskia College of Centralia, Ill., at 11. Kaskaskia will meet Baton Rouge, La. at 2 p.m., with East Central and Baton Rouge closing the day at 5 p.m.

Saturday, Baton Rouge will

See **Jucos**
Page D3

Jucos

From Page D1

begin the day against MACJC South Division power Gulf Coast at 11 a.m. before taking on Northwest at 2 p.m.

Northwest and Gulf Coast meet Saturday afternoon at 5.

On Sunday, Northeast will open the day with Wallace-Hanceville at 11 a.m.

East Central will then host a doubleheader to close the event, meeting Wallace-Hanceville at 2 p.m. and Northeast at 5.

All games in Decatur are scheduled for seven innings with the exception of the weekend finale between ECCC and Northeast, which is scheduled for nine innings.

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2-18-08

EC women clinch postseason berth

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors secured a berth in the MACJC State Tournament with wins over Southwest Mississippi Community College and Hinds Community College last week.

The EC women improved to 18-4.

The EC men also knocked off Southwest and Hinds to keep their postseason hopes alive. The Warriors brought a 10-13 mark into this week.

The top four teams in each division advance to the MACJC State Basketball Tournament, scheduled February 25-28 at Itawamba Community College in Fulton.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors wrap up the regular season Thursday when they host Pearl River. Tipoff times are 6 p.m. for the women's contest and 8 p.m. for the men's game.

EC women	**85**
Southwest	**66**

The Lady Warriors bounced back from a pair of lopsided losses in their last two outings to spank Southwest on Feb. 11 at Decatur.

EC took a 50-29 lead into halftime to improve to 17-4 overall and 8-3 in division play.

"We needed a good win," said EC coach Bill Smith. "I thought we played pretty well the first half. We shot the ball well and did some things against their zone that we didn't do the first game with them. We hit shots tonight and they didn't.

"We didn't shoot it too good the last two games, but we put the ball in the basket tonight and that was the difference in the games."

Southwest fell to 14-6, 6-5.

Mystee Dale scored 18 points and Rashima Jenkins had 13 as ECCC took a 21-point lead into halftime after trailing 15-10.

"Both of them played really, really well tonight," Smith said of the two freshmen.

Jenkins finished with 26 points, while Dale had 20. EC also got 12 points from Tanesha Brown (all from 3-point range), and nine from Tawayatha Evans. Jordon Patterson scored five points.

Kimberly Griffin led Southwest with 20 points, 14 of which came in the second half. Crystal Thompson scored 11 and Phenicia Taylor had 10.

EC men	**72**
Southwest	**71**

The Warriors came away with a win in a close contest as Southwest's Phillip Brown missed a shot in the final seconds and EC's Justin Brown covered the ball on the floor as time ran out.

"Any time you can get a win like that off a defensive stop, that just solidifies what we've been trying to do all year," said EC coach Maurice

Continued on 3B...
See Clinch...

WEEK OF 2-18-08

Continued from previous page.

Clinch...

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Bowie. "Luckily, we were able to hold on to the ball, get a jump, and win the ballgame."

Marquis Wilson led EC (9-13, 4-7) with 20 points, 12 of which came in the opening 20 minutes. The Warriors also got 13 points from Darron Maxtion, 10 from Josh Luckett, six each from Devarus Walker, Des Morales, and Rod Lofton, and five from Tony Parker.

"The last four games, Wilson has been playing exceptionally well," Bowie said of the 6-foot-6 sophomore from Delhi, La.

Southwest (7-14, 3-8) got 26 points from Aubrey Coleman and 24 from Terencio Powell.

EC women	**103**
Hinds	**57**

The Lady Warriors scored a season-high 103 points as they demolished Hinds Thursday at Decatur.

EC improved to 18-4 overall and 9-3 in the division.

Rashima Jenkins was top scorer with 26 points. Former Leake Academy standout Allison Phillips tossed in 18, Sha Coleman of Newton County had 11, Mystee Dale nine, Jaleesa Sanders and Jordon Patterson both scored eight, Tawayatha Evans had seven, Tanesha Brown and Nicole Williams both added six, and Alisha McAfee scored four.

Deaundria Singleton and Lakwanta Wilson both had 11 points to lead Hinds. The Lady Bulldogs dropped to 7-15 overall and 1-11 in the division.

EC led 49-24 at halftime.

EC men	**71**
Hinds	**68**

The Warriors continued their late-season surge with the three-point win over the Bulldogs.

Josh Luckett of Carthage was top scorer with 21 points. Marquis Wilson scored 13, Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Newton County and Darron Maxtion both tossed in nine, Rod Lofton added eight, and Dre Dickinson scored five.

Courtney Nelson had 21 points to lead the Bulldogs, who dropped to 5-16 and 2-10.

The Warriors carried a 38-27 lead into halftime and held off Hinds to record their third win in their last four games.

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East Central Defeats Hinds CC

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—The playoff-bound East Central Community College Lady Warriors scored a season high 103 points and allowed just 57 for the visiting Hinds Community College Lady Bulldogs, and the Warriors held on for a 71-68 win over the Hinds men on Thursday.

The ECCC women, who were unranked in the latest NJCAA poll for the first time in several weeks, improved to 18-4 overall and 9-3 in league play following the impressive victory.

The Lady Warriors are currently in second place in the MACJC South Division standings behind Meridian Community College, whose records stands at 10-2.

Three teams—Copiah-Lincoln, Pearl River and Southwest—are tied at 7-4.

The top four teams in each division advance to the MACJC State Basketball Tournament, scheduled February 25-28 at Itawamba Community College in Fulton.

In the win over Hinds, Rashima Jenkins was top scorer with 26 points Jenkins is a product of Airline High School in Bossier City.

Other scorers were Allison Phillips of Leake Academy, 18; Sha Coleman of Newton County, 11; Mystee Dale of Choctaw Central, nine; Jaleesa Sanders of South Leake and Jordan Patterson of Oak Hill Academy, eight each; Tawayatha Evans of Newton, seven; Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine and Nicole Williams of Newton, six each; and Alisha McAfee of Northwest Rankin, four.

Deaundria Singleton of Hazlehurst and Lakwanta Wilson of Brookhaven had 11 points each to lead the Lady Bulldogs, who fell to 7-15 and 1-11.

EC led 49-24 at halftime.

In the men's contest, Josh Luckett of Carthage was top scorer with 21 points. Also scoring were Marquis Wilson of Delhi (La.) High School, 13; Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Newton County and Darron Maxtion, a product of Sparkman High School in Harvest, Ala., nine each; Rod Lofton of Forest, eight; Dre Dickinson of Meridian, five; and ***Des Morales of Lake, Joe Thompson of Morton*** and Tony Parker of Meridian, two each.

Courtney Nelson of Clinton had 21 points to lead the Bulldogs, who dropped to 5-16 and 2-10.

EC held a 38-27 advantage at the break.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors host Pearl River in the regular season finale on Thursday in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Tip-off times are 6 p.m. for the women's contest and 8 p.m. for the men's game.

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ECCC Lady Warriors, Warriors post victories at Gulf Coast

East Central Community College's Lady Warriors moved into a tie for the MACJC South Division lead and the Warriors found themselves one win away from post-season play after both teams registered victories at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Monday night on the Perkinston campus.

The ECCC women posted a 73-64 win over the Lady Bulldogs and improved to 19-4 overall and 10-3 in league action, the same division mark as Meridian Community College.

The other top women's teams in the South include Copiah-Lincoln and Southwest, each with 8-5 records, and Pearl River, whose record stands at 7-6. The top four teams in each division qualify for the MACJC Tournament scheduled February 25-28 at Itawamba Community College in Fulton.

In EC's win over Gulf Coast, Rashima Jenkins was top scorer with 23 points. Jenkins, a 5-9 freshman forward, is a product of Airline High School in Bossier City.

Also scoring for the Lady Warriors were Allison Phillips of Leake Academy, 18; Mystee Dale of Choctaw Central, 12; Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine, 11; Tawayatha Evans of Newton, five; and Chotsani Henderson of Newton, four.

EC held a 33-32 advantage at halftime.

The Warriors won their third-straight contest by holding on for a 65-62 win over the Bulldogs, improving to 11-13 overall but more importantly 6-7 in the league standings, the same record as Gulf Coast.

Co-Lin sits atop the South Division standings at 11-2, followed by Meridian at 9-4 and Pearl River, 8-5. Should EC defeat visiting Pearl River Thursday night, the Warriors will qualify for the MACJC and Region 23 tournaments. A loss to Peal River final would end the Warriors' season.

In the win over Gulf Coast, Devarus "Scooter" Walker and Josh Luckett were leading scorers with 14 points each. Walker is a 6-foot freshman guard from Newton County High School and Luckett, a 6-4 freshman forward from Carthage.

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2-18-

East Central women crush Hinds

The playoff- bound East Central Community College Lady Warriors scored a season high 103 points and allowed just 57 for the visiting Hinds Community College Lady Bulldogs, and the Warriors held on for a 71-68 win over the Hinds men Thursday night in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

The ECCC women, who were unranked in the latest NJCAA poll for the first time in several weeks, improved to 18-4 overall and 9-3 in league play following the impressive victory.

The Lady Warriors are currently in second place in the MACJC South Division standings behind Meridian Community College, whose records stands at 10-2. Three teams – Copiah-Lincoln, Pearl River and Southwest –are tied at 7-4.

The top four teams in each division advance to the MACJC State Basketball Tournament, scheduled Feb. 25-28 at Itawamba Community College in Fulton.

In the win over Hinds, Rashima Jenkins was top scorer with 26 points Jenkins is a product of Airline High School in

See **ECCC**, Page 2B

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ECCC

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Bossier City.

Other scorers were Allison Phillips of Leake Academy, 18; Sha Coleman of Newton County, 11; Mystee Dale of Choctaw Central, nine; Jaleesa Sanders of South Leake and Jordan Patterson of Oak Hill Academy, eight each; Tawayatha Evans of Newton, seven; Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine and Nicole Williams of Newton, six each; and Alisha McAfee of Northwest Rankin, four.

Deaundria Singleton of Hazlehurst and Lakwanta Wilson of Brookhaven had 11 points each to lead the Lady Bulldogs, who fell to 7-15 and 1-11.

EC led 49-24 at halftime.

In the men's contest, Josh Luckett of Carthage was top scorer with 21 points. Also scoring were Marquis Wilson of Delhi (La.) High School, 13; Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Newton County and Darron Maxtion, a product of Sparkman High School in Harvest, Ala., nine each; Rod Lofton of Forest, eight; Dre Dickinson of Meridian, five; and Des Morales of Lake Joe Thompson of Morton and Tony Parker of Meridian, two each.

Courtney Nelson of Clinton had 21 points to lead the Bulldogs, who dropped to 5-16 and 2-10.

EC held a 38-27 advantage at the break.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors travel to Gulf Coast on Monday, Feb. 18 and host Pearl River in the regular season finale on Thursday, Feb. 21 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. Tip-off times are 6 p.m. for the women's contest and 8 p.m. for the men's game.

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WEEK OF 2-18-08

LATE JUCO BASKETBALL

East Central women 73
Gulf Coast 64

The Lady Warriors moved into a tie for the MACJC South Division lead with a win at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Monday night on the Perkinston campus.

The ECCC women are now 19-4 overall and 10-3 in league action, the same division mark as Meridian.

The other top women's teams in the South include Copiah-Lincoln and Southwest, each with 8-5 records, and Pearl River, whose record stands at 7-6.

The top four teams in each division qualify for the MACJC Tournament scheduled February 25-28 at Itawamba Community College in Fulton.

In EC's win over Gulf Coast, Rashima Jenkins was top scorer with 23 points. Also scoring in double figures for the Lady Warriors were Allison Phillips of Leake Academy, 18; Mystee Dale of Choctaw Central, 12; and Tanesha Brown of Provine, 11.

EC held a 33-32 advantage at halftime.

The Lady Warriors return to action Thursday, hosting Pearl River.

— from school reports

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JUCO SOFTBALL

East Central	**3-9**
Jones County	**8-8**

The Lady Warriors scored three times in the bottom of the seventh inning to earn a split with a 9-8 win over the visiting Lady Bobcats in Decatur.

East Central's Shenique Brass was 4-for-4 with two doubles while Emily Thrash had two singles, a double and two RBIs in the second game. Whitnee White had two hits and one RBI, while Lindsey Stevens and Kristen Pillsbury also had RBIs.

Leah Dennis (1-0) got the win with three strikeouts in two innings of relief. Amber Smith started, giving up five runs (only two were earned) and striking out six in five innings.

In the opener, Jones scored four runs in the second and fourth innings to take an 8-3 win.

Thrash had a two-run homer for EC, while Haley Chipley singled and doubled and Sondreia Hillie doubled and drove in one run.

Codee Russell (0-1) took the loss on the hill.

ECCC, which is now 2-2, goes to Itawamba Thursday.

— Rocky Higginbotham

East Central men	**65**
Gulf Coast	**62**

The Warriors now find themselves one win away from postseason play after Monday night's road win.

ECCC won its third-straight contest, improving to 11-13 overall but more importantly 6-7 in the league standing.

Co-Lin sits atop the South Division standings at 11-2, followed by Meridian at 9-4 and Pearl River at 8-5. Should EC defeat visiting Pearl River Thursday night, the Warriors will qualify for the MACJC and Region 23 tournaments.A loss to Peal River final would end the Warriors' season.

In the win over Gulf Coast, Devarus "Scooter" Walker and Josh Luckett were leading scorers with 14 points each.

EC led 31-30 at the break.

Thursday's regular season finale with Pearl River will also serve as "Sophomore Appreciation Night" for both EC squads. The women's contest begins at 6 p.m. following by men's action at 7:45 p.m.

— from school reports

JUCO TENNIS

MCC	**11**
East Central	**0**

Meridian Community College's tennis team rolled past East Central Tuesday, with the Eagle men claiming 11 matches to none while the Lady Eagles earned a 9-0 shutout.

Earning singles victories for MCC's men were Blake Sherman, Dawson Dyess, Elliott Clark, Justin Newman, Wilson Bounds and Nicholas Zabrodiec.

Zabrodiec and Sherman earned a doubles victory, as did Dyess-Clark and Newman-Bounds.

On the other side, MCC's Alycia LeMerle teamed with Ashton Hartley for a doubles victory while Katy Shoptaugh and Kelly Sterling earned a win. Jodi Webb and Molly Moon also won their doubles match.

LeMerle, Sterling, Shoptaugh, Webb and Kayla Daughtrey each won singles matches for the Lady Eagles.

— Brandon Walker

WEEK OF 2-18-08

Leake girls advance to title tilt;

from staff reports

The Leake Academy Rebelettes jumped out to a quick start on Friday afternoon and secured their spot in the MPSA Class AA State Finals with a 79-53 win over Prairie View.

The win moves Leake Academy into today's championship game against Oak Forest at 2:15 p.m.

Leake avoided a blemish to their perfect season with a strong start against Prairie View on Friday afternoon.

The Rebelettes rolled to a 25-14 lead at the end of the first quarter and outscored Prairie View 22-14 in the third quarter to stretch their lead to 19 points at half.

Leake Academy extended its lead to 63-35 at the end of the third quarter and cruised to the 26-point victory.

The Rebelettes, now 40-0, were led by Whitney Gross, who poured in 23 points in the victory.

Hannah Lee and Emily Kea each added 16 points and Mary Laurin Wilson rounded out the double-figure scoring with 12 points for Leake.

Logan Tubbs led Prairie View with 14 points in the loss.

AREA ROUNDUP

—Ryan Satcher

LATE JUCO BASKETBALL

Pearl River	**61**
East Central men	**58**

A controversial technical foul with just seconds remaining allowed the visiting Wildcats to escape with a three-point win over East Central Thursday night in Decatur, thus ending the Warriors' season.

With the loss, EC finishes 11-13 overall and 6-8 in the MACJC South Division under second-year head coach Maurice Bowie. EC and Southwest tied for fifth place in division competition.

Devarus "Scooter" Walker, a former Newton County standout, was the top scorer for EC with 16 points. Darron Maxtion had 15 points.

Labaron Weathers had 12 points to lead the Wildcats, who improved to 16-9 overall.

EC trailed 30-22 at halftime.

—from school reports

Pearl River	**80**
East Central women	**75**

The playoff-bound Lady Warriors fell by five to the Pearl River women, who avenged an earlier 63-53 loss.

EC completed the regular season 19-5 overall and 10-4 in league play under third-year head coach Bill Smith. The Lady Warriors finished second in the South behind Meridian, which captured league honors with an 11-3 record.

The Lady Warriors face Holmes Community College at 7:45 p.m. Tuesday in first-round MACJC Tournament action at Itawamba. The winner battles the Itawamba/Co-Lin victor at 6 p.m. Wednesday.

Four East Central women scored in double figures against Pearl River, with former Newton standout Tawayatha Evans leading the way with 21 points. Also in double figures were Rashima Jenkins with 17; Tanesha Brown with 16; and former Choctaw Central standout Mystee Dale with 15.

Olivia Magee poured in 19

APPEARED IN:

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2-18-08

Continued from previous page

East Central drops pair

points to lead the Lady Wildcats, who finished 17-8.

Pearl River held a 40-35 advantage at the break.

— from school reports

PREP SOFTBALL
MHS, Clinton contest canceled

Meridian High School's game with Clinton slated for Friday was canceled. MHS head coach Susan Frazier said no reschedule date has been made at this time.

Frazier also said a contest with Starkville which was slated for Feb. 19 has been moved to March 17; and a contest against Choctaw Central on Feb. 29 will now be played on the road.

— Rocky Higginbotham

PREP BASEBALL
Heidelberg Academy 8
Calvary Christian 4

Calvary Christian finished out its preseason slate with an 8-4 loss at Heidelberg Academy on Friday night.

The Cougars were tied 4-4 going into the sixth inning when the Rebels put up four runs to break the game open and pick up the 8-4 victory. David Zabinski led Calvary with two hits and knocked in two runs. Stephen Hudson also knocked in two runs with a home run for the Cougars.

Hudson was tagged with the loss after allowing four hits and four runs. He struck out seven batters in three innings of work.

Calvary will get the regular season underway on Monday at Newton County Academy at 3 p.m.

The Cougars will host Macon Central in a division doubleheader on Thursday afternoon.

— Ryan Satcher

JUCO SOFTBALL
ECCC, Pearl River games postponed

East Central Community College's games against Pearl River on Friday were postponed because of wet field conditions.

No makeup date has been scheduled.

— from school reports

WEEK OF 2-18-08

JUCO BASKETBALL

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

Women

EAST MISS. 55, COAHOMA 45

Coahoma — Johnson 19. Additional scoring not available.

East Miss. (12-12) — Miller 18. Additional scoring not available.

Halftime — Coahoma 33-22.

MERIDIAN 95, MISS. GULF COAST 75

Miss. Gulf Coast (7-18) — Augustus 19, Ulmer 9, Mackay 10, Stidman 4, Schonberg 33.

Meridian (21-4) — Biggs 4, Wair 4, Clayton 5, T. Parker 14, Hirmke 2, Strickland 37, D. Parker 17, Babina 11.

Halftime — Miss. Gulf Coast 50-48.

SOUTHWEST MISS. 65, HINDS 42

Hinds (7-17) — Harrison 11, Smith 11, Palmer 8, Johnson 5, Page 2, Richardson 2, Trimble 2, Wilson 1.

Southwest Miss. (17-6) — Taylor 14, Brabham 10, Swindle 9, Chatman 6, Griffin 6, Thompson 5, Harris 4, Marsalis 3, Wiltz 3, Bryant 2, Patterson 3.

Halftime — Southwest Miss. 40-23.

ITAWAMBA 75, MISS. DELTA 53

Itawamba (17-8) — Shumpert 11, Cannon 7, Williamson 2, Meardith 6, Duke 2, Bowling 2, Shannon 6, Collins 18, Larry 17, Benford 2.

Miss. Delta (7-18) — Ayers 17, Jackson 2, Love 9, Thomas 3, Wilson 4, Warren 1, Scott 2, Lawson 2.

Halftime — Miss. Delta 31-28.

HOLMES 72, NORTHWEST MISS. 70

Holmes — Flanagan 8, Harris 19, Anderson 23, Bryant 3, Webster 4, Winfield 5, Brown 10.

Northwest Miss. (9-13) — Pointer 6, Johnson 13, Burgess 13, Price 5, Martin 5, Thomas 24, Scott 4.

Halftime — Northwest Miss. 36-35.

PEARL RIVER 80, EAST CENTRAL 75

Pearl River (17-8) — Lowe 6, Magee 19, Easley 3, Eady 16, Booth 18, Lee 2, Thomas 16.

East Central (19-5) — Jenkins 17, Phillips 4, Dale 15, Brown 16, McAfee 2, Evans 21.

Halftime — Pearl River 40-35.

JONES COUNTY 76, COPIAH-LINCOLN 58

Copiah-Lincoln (17-7) — Dumas 12, Mason 5, Wilcher 3, Ellis 11, Bullock 13, Y. Williams 7, Thomas 3, Ward 2, M. Williams 2.

Jones County (13-12) — Carter 18, Bolton 5, Gray 6, Leverett 5, Hubbard 13, Lewis 6, Tucker 10, Booth 13.

Halftime — Jones County 33-27.

Men

SOUTHWEST MISS. 74, HINDS 61

Hinds (4-20) — Winston 16, Harper 10, Higgins 10, Watkins 8, Watson 8, Nelson 5, Harvey 2, Marbley 2.

Southwest Miss. (10-14) — Coleman 25, Smith 16, Brown 9, Brumfield 9, Powell 7, Holloway 2, Ricard 2, Young 2, Moncree 1, Newton 1.

Halftime — Hinds 29-28.

ITAWAMBA 69, MISS. DELTA 59

Itawamba (23-2) — Crudup 10, McKinney 6, Brock 8, Marks 7, Jenkins 10, Kerusch 26, Pierce 2.

Miss. Delta (12-13) — George 2, McDaniel 5, Washington 3, Howard 6, Taylor 15, Causey 6, Malone 2.

Halftime — Itawamba 44-25.

HOLMES 78, NORTHWEST MISS. 66

Holmes — Banks 18, Boyd 18, Moore 3, Brown 2, Bell 17, Brinson 5, Newman 6, Black 9.

Northwest Miss. (7-18) — Shaw 9, Davis 2, Harris 15, Pegues 7, Haywood 14, Izonfuo 14, Edwards 5.

Halftime — Holmes 43-34.

PEARL RIVER 61, EAST CENTRAL 58

Pearl River (16-9) — Stewart 7, Hawkins 5, Sims 10, White 7, Smith 8, Cain 4, Jackson 8, Weathers 12.

East Central (11-14) — Walker 16, Morales 5, Lofton 8, Dickinson 2, Wilson 7, Maxtion 15, Luckett 5.

Halftime — Pearl River 30-22.

EAST MISS. 94, COAHOMA 86

Coahoma — Jacks 31. Additional scoring not available.

East Miss. (11-13) — Smith 26. Additional scoring not available.

Halftime — East Miss. 45-43.

COPIAH-LINCOLN 9, JONES COUNTY 68

Copiah-Lincoln — Blanks 7, London 10, Hutchin 12, Wilcher 14, Truvillion 24, Bass 1, Newsome 1.

Jones County — Marshall 27, Jones 3, Collins 7, Brown 1, Buxton 6, Page 2, Bolton 2, L. McCullum 20.

Halftime — Jones County 36-28.

MISS. GULF COAST 79, MERIDIAN 71

Miss. Gulf Coast (15-10) — Ray 31, Mosley 11, Suggs 9, Bryon 9, Nickson 5, Hall 5, Burnett 4, Johnson 4.

Meridian (15-10) — Huddleston 36, Luckett 11, McCurtis 10, Thompson 6, Brown 4, Williams 3.

Halftime — Miss. Gulf Coast 38-31.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 2-25-08

Juco Basketball

Lady Eagles top EMCC, move into state semis

East Central ladies eliminated by HCC

from staff reports

Meridian Community College coach Hilary Allen said he would have preferred to play someone other than rival East Mississippi in his team's first game in the MACJC State Tournament.

Lucky for Allen, his Lady Eagles were up to the challenge.

MCC got a game-high 26 points out of All-American NaDosha Strickland and the Lady Eagles pulled away in the second half to top EMCC 78-64 in a quarterfinal round game in the state tourney at Itawamba.

"First day of the tournament ... all the nerves and butterflies, hey, it was tough," Allen said after his nationally-ranked team improved to 22-4 on the season.

"It was a really good win for us. Scooba played very well in the first half ... we didn't really start to pull away until probably the 10-minute mark."

Allen said former Meridian High School standout Shaurice Miller was tough to handle early, scoring 14 of her team-best 21 points for EMCC in the first half.

In addition to Strickland's 26 points, MCC got 11 points and a game-high 14 rebounds from Zirconia Hopkins and 17 points from freshman Tiara Parker.

The Lady Eagles led 31-25 at halftime.

MCC's women are in action again this afternoon, taking on Southwest Mississippi in a semi-final contest at 1:30. EMCC's women fell to 11-14.

The MCC men are also in action in the semis tonight, as the Eagles will face the nation's fifth-ranked team and host Itawamba at 7:45 p.m.

The men's and women's championship games are Thursday.

— Rocky Higginbotham

Holmes women	**74**
East Central	**69**

After a back-and-forth battle with MCC over the MACJC South Division lead during the regular season, East Central's women ran into a stumbling block Tuesday night at the state tournament in Fulton.

The Lady Bulldogs of Holmes, who entered with an 11-12 mark on the season, withstood an early charge from East Central and hung around long enough to make a late run to nab a five-point victory Tuesday.

After East Central led throughout, HCC tied the game on a Brittany Flanagan free throw with 5:21 left. From there, the Lady Warriors never led again.

On the game, former Choctaw Central standout Mystee Dale led all scorers with 20 points for EC while Rashima Jenkins added 17.

A quarter of Lady Bulldogs reached double digits, led by Alexis Bryant's 16. Ashley Brown added 13, Dominique Harris scored 12 and Flanagan chipped in 11.

East Central, which was the South Division runnerup, will still qualify for the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament next week in Clinton. The Lady Warriors are now 19-6 on the season.

Holmes is the No. 3 seed out of the North Division.

— Brandon Walker

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WEEK OF 2-25-08

Juco Basketball

Region 23 brackets announced

By Rocky Higginbotham
sports editor

Brackets for next week's NJCAA Region 23 Basketball Tournament were announced Friday.

Both squads from Meridian Community College and the women from East Central have qualified for the event, which begins Monday at Mississippi College's A.E. Wood Coliseum in Clinton.

Women's quarterfinal action begins at noon Monday with a contest between Holmes and Southern Shreveport, La.

ECCC's Lady Warriors take the floor at 2 p.m. against Southwest Mississippi. After Itawamba and Pearl River meet at 6 p.m., Meridian's ladies take the floor at 8 p.m. against Copiah-Lincoln.

MCC, the MACJC South Division champion, is fresh off a state runnerup finish — losing to host Itawamba in the finals Thursday night. A win by the Lady Eagles in the first round pushes them into a noon semifinal game on Wednesday against either Holmes or Southern Shreveport. If ECCC's ladies win Monday, they'll get the Itawamba/Pearl River survivor Wednesday at 2 p.m.

The women's championship is Thursday night at 6 p.m., with the winner advancing to the NJCAA National Championship Tournament which begins March 18 in Salina, Kan.

On the men's side, Meridian takes the floor Tuesday at noon against Bossier, La. A win pushes the Eagles into the 8 p.m. semifinal on Wednesday against fifth-ranked and state champion Itawamba or Gulf Coast.

Co-Lin, Delta, Northeast and Pearl River round out the other side of the bracket, and the men's finals are Thursday at 8 p.m.

The Region 23 men's champ will go to the NJCAA National Championship Tournament which begins March 18 in Hutchinson, Kan.

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WEEK OF 2-25-08

EC women head to postseason; Warriors fall one win short

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

With berths in this week's MACJC State Tournament and next week's NJCAA Region 23 Tournament already wrapped up, the East Central Community College Lady Warriors closed out their regular season with an 80-75 loss to Pearl River Community College Thursday at Decatur.

The Lady Warriors concluded the regular season with a 19-5 record.

"We've got two more weeks no matter what," Lady Warriors coach Bill Smith said. "We've just got to put this one behind us and regroup and get ready for this week."

The Lady Warriors opened the state tournament with Holmes Community College on Tuesday. That winner will face the Itawamba-Copiah-Lincoln winner tonight at 6 p.m. The finals are slated for 6 p.m. on Thursday.

The EC men had to beat Pearl River to continue their season and came up short in a 61-58 loss.

The Warriors ended their season with an 11-14 record.

EC women	**73**
Gulf Coast	**64**

The Lady Warriors moved into a first-place tie with Meridian in the division standings with the Feb. 19 nine-point win at Perkinston.

EC improved to 19-4 overall and 10-3 in the division with the win. Gulf Coast fell to 7-17 and 3-10.

The Lady Warriors carried a slim 33-32 lead into halftime, but outscored the Lady Bulldogs 40-32 over the final 20 minutes.

Rashima Jenkins, a 5-foot-9 freshman forward from Bossier City, La., led EC with 23 points.

Former Leake Academy standout Allison Phillips scored 18 points. EC also got 12 points from Mystee Dale, 11 from Tanesha Brown, and five from Tawayatha Evans.

Gulf Coast (7-17, 3-10) got 23 points from Ja'Net Schonberg, 13 from Keaundra Augustus, and 11 from Daphia Ulmer.

EC men	**65**
Gulf Coast	**62**

The Warriors won their third-straight contest with the three-point victory over the host Bulldogs.

EC improved to 11-13 overall and 6-7 in the division with the win.

The game was tight throughout as the Warriors took a 31-30 lead into halftime.

Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Newton County and Josh Luckett of Carthage were EC's leading scorers with 14 points each. Both are freshmen.

The Warriors also got 10 points from Marquis Wilson, eight each from Darron Maxtion and Des Morales, and five each from Rod Lofton and Justin Brown.

Gulf Coast (14-10, 6-7) got 17 points from Teshawn Byron and 12 each from Justin Ray and Luther Suggs.

Pearl River	**80**
EC women	**75**

The Lady Warriors chased Pearl River most of the night and came up five points short in their regular-season finale in Decatur last Thursday.

The loss cost the Lady Warriors a share of first place in the division.

"We'd have liked to have won this last one, but Pearl River played really, really good and shot it a lot better than they did the first time that we played them," Lady Warriors coach Bill Smith said.

"We had an opportunity down the stretch when we were down one to go up one and we just missed a couple easy chip shots under the basket.

"You've got to give them credit, they played exceptionally well for them."

Pearl River led 40-35 going into halftime. The Lady Wildcats were up 69-57 with 10:20 remaining, but EC went on a 14-2 run to pull even at 71 on a basket by Rashima Jenkins with 3:36 left.

Pearl River's Laterrica Booth answered with a 3-pointer 15 seconds later and the Lady Wildcats maintained the lead the rest of the contest.

EC got to within 76-75 on a basket by Tanesha Brown with just under a minute left, but Nicole Lowe connected with 24 seconds to go and Juanita Easley added two free throws with 7.7 seconds left to ice the win for Pearl River.

EC (19-5, 10-4) got 21 points from Tawayatha Evans, 17 from Jenkins, 16 from Brown, and 15 from Mystee Dale.

Pearl River (17-8, 8-6) got 19 points from Olivia Magee, 18 from Booth, and 16 each from Sherrion Thomas and Stacia Eady.

Pearl River	**61**
EC men	**58**

Needing a win to claim a berth in the state tournament, the Warriors were unable to pull off the upset.

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____ NEWTON RECORD _____

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Week of 2-25-08

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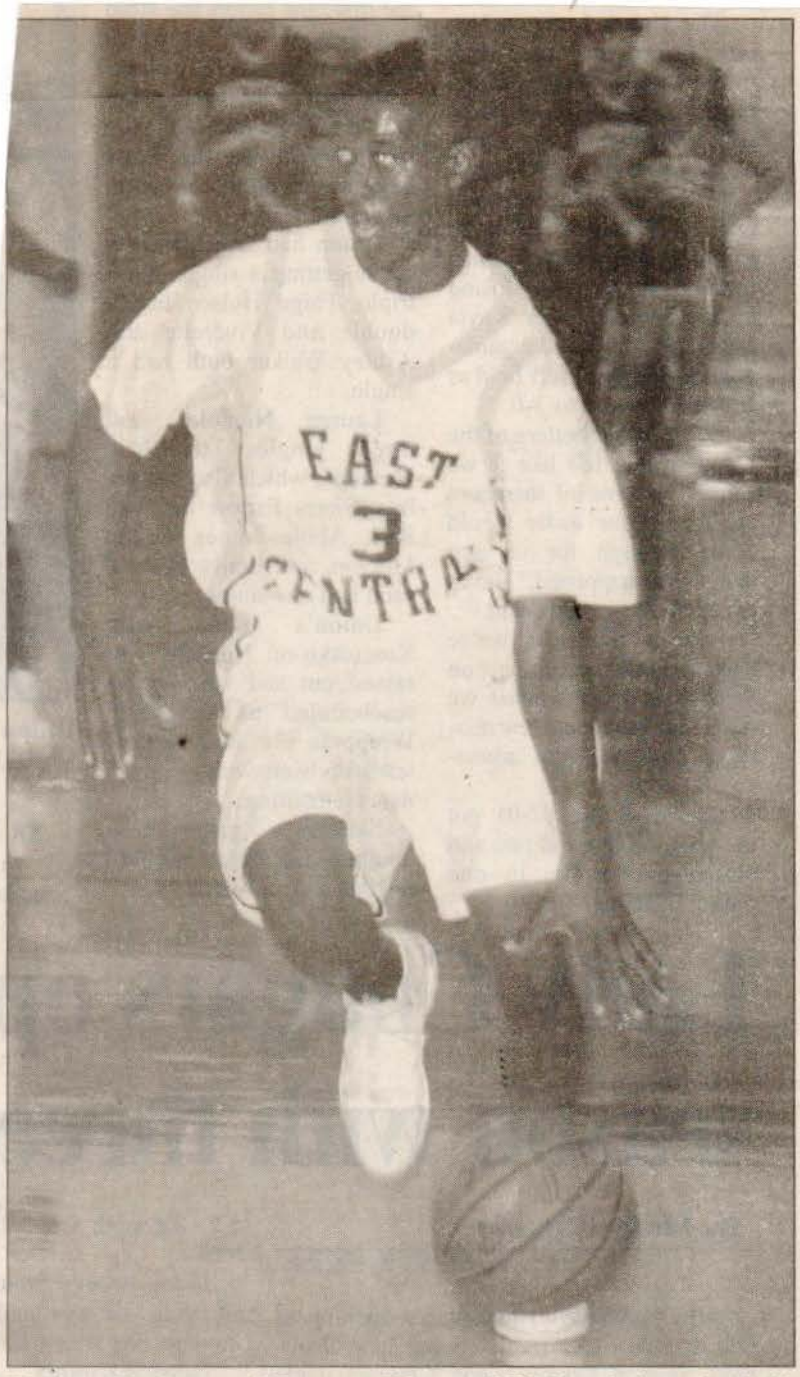

Newton County grad Devarus "Scooter" Walker brings the ball upcourt in ECCC's 61-58 loss to Pearl River last Thursday.

Photo by Marty Stamper

A questionable intentional foul call with 9.8 seconds remaining allowed Pearl River to close out the win over the Warriors in Thursday's season finale at Decatur.

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See Postseason...

Postseason...

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EC fell behind early, trailing the Wildcats 11-2. After pulling even at 11, the Warriors were down 30-22 going into halftime.

Pearl River led 46-32 with just under 15 minutes to play, but EC battled to within two points on three different occasions before running out of gas.

Devarus Walker led EC (11-14, 6-8) with 16 points. Darron Maxtion tossed in 15, Rod Lofton scored eight, Marquis Wilson had seven, and Des Morales and Josh Luckett both scored five.

Pearl River (16-9, 9-5) got 12 points from Lebaron Weathers, 10 from Jovanni [illegible], eight each from Donta Smith and Lamarcus Jackson, and seven each from Jeremy Stewart and Jeremy White.

WEEK OF 2-25-08

ECCC squads lose close contest to Pearl River

A controversial technical foul with just seconds remaining allowed the visiting Pearl River Community College Wildcats to escape with a 61-58 decision over East Central Community College Thursday night, thus ending the Warriors' season and all hopes for post-season play.

With the loss, EC finishes 11-13 overall and 6-8 in the MACJC South Division under second-year head coach Maurice Bowie. EC and Southwest tied for fifth place in division competition.

Copiah-Lincoln won the South with a 12-2 mark, followed by Meridian Community College and Pearl River, which finished tied at 9-5, and Mississippi Gulf Coast, 7-7. The top four teams qualify for the MACJC State Tournament scheduled February 25-28 at Itawamba Community College in Fulton.

Devarus "Scooter" Walker was the top scorer for EC with 16 points. Walker, a 6-foot freshman forward, is a product of Newton County High School.

Also scoring were Darron Maxtion, a product of Sparkman High School in Harvest, Ala., 15; Rod Lofton of Forest, eight; Marquis Wilson of Delhi (La.) High School, seven; Des Morales of Lake and Josh Luckett of Carthage, five each; and Dre Dickinson of Meridian, two.

Labaron Weathers of Oak Grove had 12 points to lead the Wildcats, who improved to 16-9 overall.

EC trailed 30-22 at halftime.

In the women's contest, the playoff-bound Lady Warriors fell 80-75 to the Pearl River women, who avenged an earlier 63-53 loss.

EC completed the regular season 19-5 overall and 10-4 in league play under third-year head coach Bill Smith. The Lady Warriors finished second in the South behind Meridian, which captured league honors with an 11-3 record. Southwest came in third at 9-5 and Co-Lin placed fourth at 8-6 along with Pearl River. Co-Lin advances to the state tournament due to the tie-breaker rule.

The Lady Warriors face Holmes Community College at 7:45 p.m. Tuesday in first-round MACJC Tournament action at Itawamba. The winner battles the Itawamba/Co-Lin victor at 6 p.m. Wednesday. Finals are 6 p.m. Thursday.

Four East Central women scored in double figures against Pearl River, with Tawayatha Evans leading the way with 21 points. Evans is a 5-9 sophomore forward from Newton.

EC Photo

Darron Maxtion makes one of his 15 points for ECCC who fell 61-58 to visiting Pearl River Community College Thursday night.

Also scoring were Rashima Jenkins, a product of Airline High School in Bossier City, La., 17; Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine, 16; Mystee Dale of Choctaw Central, 15; Allison Phillips of Leake Academy, four; and Alisha McAfee of Northwest Rankin, two.

Olivia Magee of Columbia poured in 19 points to lead the Lady Wildcats who finished 17-8.

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WEEK OF 3-2-08

ECCC Lady Warriors win, advance to semi-finals

A 21-3 run over the final nine minutes of first-half action helped propel East Central Community College's Lady Warriors to an 81-72 victory over Southwest Mississippi Community College Monday afternoon in first-round action of the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament being held at Mississippi College's A.E. Wood Coliseum in Clinton.

With the win, East Central improves to 20-6 under third-year head coach Bill Smith and more importantly advances to Wednesday's semi-final matchup at 2 p.m. with the state champion Itawamba Community College Lady Indians, who knocked off Pearl River Community College 53-46.

Other first-round winners heading to the semi-finals included Copiah-Lincoln, which got past Meridian 80-75, and Holmes, an 86-85 overtime victor over Southern-Shreveport. Finals are set for 6 p.m. Thursday.

In EC's win over Southwest, Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine was top scorer with 18 points and Tawayatha Evans of Newton added 17. Also scoring were Rashima Jenkins, a product of Airline High School in Bossier City, La., 14; Mystee Dale of Choctaw Central, 13; Allison Phillips of Leake Academy, nine; Chotsani Henderson of Newton, six; and Alisha McAfee of Northwest Rankin and Jordan Patterson of Oak Hill Academy, two each.

Kimberly Griffin of

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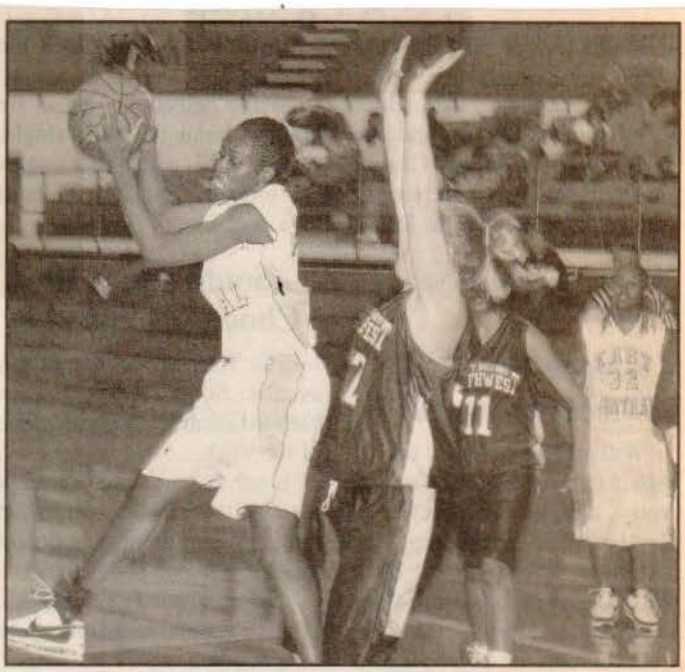

EC photo

ECCC's Tawayatha Evans (31) of Newton takes control of a rebound during the Lady Warriors' 81-72 win over Southwest Monday in first-round action of the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament hosted by Mississippi College. Evans pumped in 17 points for EC, which improved to 20-6 and advances to the semi-finals Wednesday afternoon. Other Lady Warriors shown are Chotsani Henderson (32) of Newton and Rashima Jenkins (12), a product of Airline High School in Bossier City, La.

Woodville pumped in 24 points to lead the Lady Bears, who finished the season at 18-8.

WEEK OF 3-2-08

MACJC South Division

Through March 3

Women	Div.	All	Men	Div.	All
Meridian	11-3	23-6	Co-Lin	12-2	20-7
East Central	10-4	20-6	Meridian	9-5	16-11
Southwest	9-5	18-8	Pearl River	9-5	16-10
Co-Lin	8-6	17-8	Gulf Coast	7-7	15-11
Pearl River	8-6	17-9	East Central	6-8	11-14
Jones	6-8	13-12	Southwest	6-8	10-14
Gulf Coast	3-11	7-18	Jones	5-9	9-16
Hinds	1-13	7-17	Hinds	2-12	4-20

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WEEK OF 3-2-08

Lady Warriors exit early

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

It would appear the East Central Community College Lady Warriors are picking a bad time to start a losing streak.

The Lady Warriors were upset 74-69 by Holmes Community College in the opening round of the MACJC State Tournament at Fulton on Feb. 26.

Seeded second from the South Division, the Lady Warriors were 2-0 against Holmes during the regular season and led by as many as 11 points in the second half. Both of the regular season wins were by double-digit margins.

EC fell to 19-6. Holmes, the No. 3 seed from the North Division, evened its record at 12-12 with the win.

The loss gave the Lady Warriors back-to-back setbacks for just the second time this season.

The Lady Warriors jumped out to a 6-0 lead on Holmes in the game's first 90 seconds when Mystee Dale scored from the inside.

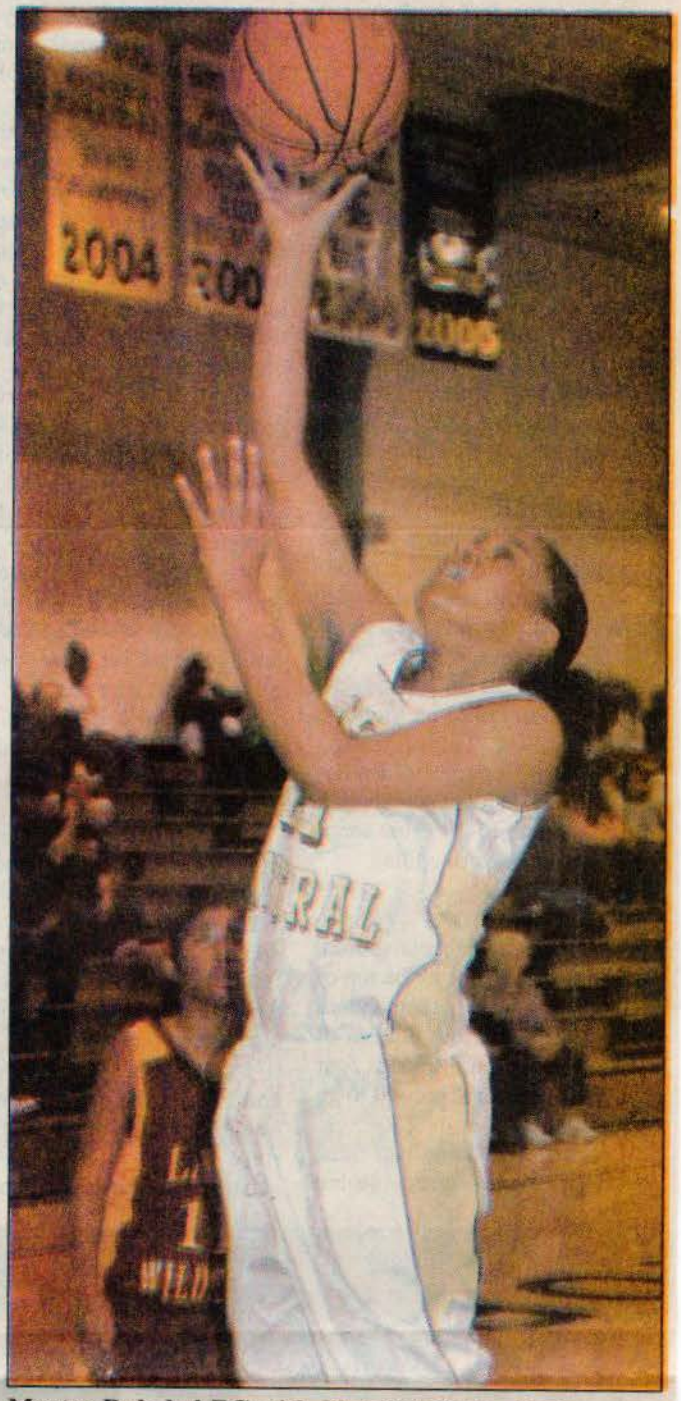
A Dominique Harris basket pulled Holmes to within 14-12 with 11:40 left in the first half.

EC held as much as a 10-point lead with 5:05 remaining when Dale scored another basket.

Ashley Brown pulled the Lady Bulldogs to within six with 15 seconds to go when she nailed two free throws.

The Lady Warriors carried a 32-26 lead into halftime.

Early in the second half, the Lady Warriors scored six quick points to pull out to an 11-point lead.



Mystee Dale led EC with 20 points in the Lady Warriors' 64-59 loss to Holmes in the MACJC State Tournament last week.

Photo by Marty Stamper

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A basket by Dale gave EC a 10-point lead at 47-37 with 14:50 remaining in the game.

From that point on, however, Holmes began chipping away. The Lady Bulldogs scored seven straight points and a Jessica McLin 3-pointer pulled Holmes to within 47-44 with 12:55 to go.

The Lady Warriors still managed to stay ahead until Brittany Flanagan hit a free throw to tie the game at 56. A Harris 3-pointer put the Lady Bulldogs up for good at 59-56 with 4:20 to play.

The Lady Bulldog lead increased to seven with less than 45 seconds to go as Ashley Brown hit one of two free throws.

Dale led all scorers with 20 points while Rashima Jenkins tossed in 17. Allison Phillips, Tanesha Brown, and Tawayatha Evans added nine each. Jordon Patterson and Alisha McAfee both scored four.

Felexis Bryant had 16 points to lead Holmes. The Lady Bulldogs also got 13 from Brown, 12 from Harris, and 11 from Flanagan.

The Lady Warriors will seek to reverse their fortune in the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament at Mississippi College in Clinton this week. A loss there will end their season while three wins would advance them to the NJCAA National Tournament in Salina, Kan.

The Lady Warriors opened the regional with Southwest Mississippi on Monday.

WEEK OF 3-2-08

Itawamba, ECCC take titles

CLINTON — Forward **Serio Kerusch** pumped in 23 points Thursday night to help Itawamba thump Mississippi Delta 68-47 in the championship game of the Region 23 junior college tournament.

The MACJC champion Indians (29-2) advanced to the NJCAA nationals in Hutchinson, Kan., for the second straight season. The tournament begins on March 18.

Guard **Staddrick McDaniel** led Delta (15-14) with 11 points.

Rashima Jenkins scored 20 points and **Mystee Dale** 18 to lead East Central (22-6) past Holmes 67-62 for the women's championship. **Dominique Harris** scored 19 for Holmes (14-14).

ECCC advanced to the NJCAA nationals at Salina, Kan. The tournament starts March 18.

JUCO BASKETBALL

REGION 23 TOURNAMENT
AT CLINTON

MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP
ITAWAMBA 68, MISSISSIPPI DELTA 47
Itawamba (29-2) — Kerusch 23, Brock 17, Crudup 8, McKinny 6, Johnson 6, Marks 4, Jenkins 3, Hadley 1.
Mississippi Delta (15-14) — McDaniel 11, Howard 9, Taylor 8, Wilson 5, Causey 4, Washington 4, Simmons 3, George 2, Daniels 1.
Halftime — ICC 35-22.

WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP
EAST CENTRAL 67, HOLMES 62
Holmes (14-14) — Flanagan 4, Harris 19, Anderson 7, Bryant 4, Webster 6, Brown 17, O'Briant 5.
East Central (22-6) — Jenkins 20, Phillips 6, Dale 18, Brown 12, McAfee 1, Patterson 2, Evans 2, Henderson 2.
Halftime — ECCC 35-27.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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3-5-08

NJCAA Region 23 Tournament: East Central vs. Southwest

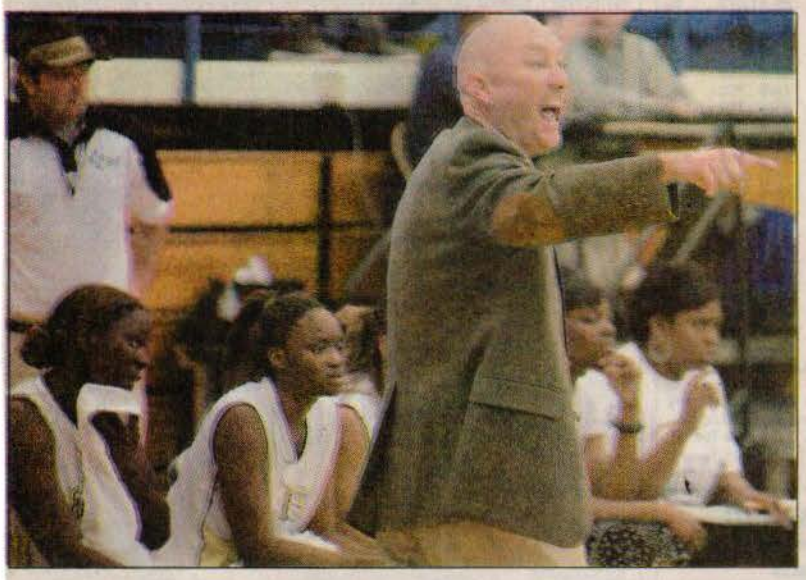

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT/THE MERIDIAN STAR

THE COACH

East Central Lady Warrior head basketball coach Billy Smith yells instructions to his players during their game against Southwest Mississippi Community College Monday during the Region 23 tournament at Mississippi College in Clinton.

East Central gets past Southwest

By Rocky Higginbotham
sports editor

CLINTON — The plan for East Central Community College in its NJCAA Region 23 Tournament opener was simple enough: Do its best to limit Southwest stars Kimberly Griffin and Phenicia Taylor.

In the end, it was really only the Lady Warriors' efforts which mattered.

East Central shook off a nervous start by turning a nine-point deficit into a nine-point halftime lead, and the Lady Warriors never trailed again in an 81-72 win over Southwest here at Mississippi College's A.E. Wood Coliseum.

The win improves ECCC's ladies to 20-6 on the season and moves them into a 2 p.m. semifinal game Wednesday against either Itawamba or Pearl River. Southwest finished 18-8.

It was the rubber match between the South Division rivals, with Southwest winning by 13 on its home floor while East Central won by 19 in Decatur.

EAST CENTRAL 81

SOUTHWEST 72

It looked like the Lady Bears were on the right track early, forcing ECCC into six turnovers in the game's first 6 minutes. And while the Lady Bears led by just three points at that juncture, they used a 3-pointer from Hope Swindle and a putback from Whitley Wiltz to help push the advantage to as much as 22-13.

Twelve seconds later, Southwest's 6-foot-1 center Erin Brabham went to the bench with her third foul. And although Brabham had done little to hurt East Central — that's when the tables turned for the Lady Warriors.

"We had to pick who we wanted to try to slow down," ECCC head coach Bill Smith said. "And we came in trying to limit (Taylor) and (Griffin) as much as we could.

"It helped when their big girl went to the bench, but it was really just a matter of us settling down. Once we stopped turning the ball over, we were able to run a lot of our sets and get into what we wanted to do. We just had to settle down."

ECCC's biggest deficit was nine, but it didn't take the Lady Warriors long to get even. A big basket from Allison Phillips and a 3-pointer from Tanesha Brown got the Lady Warriors back in the game, and a putback from Tawayatha Evans pulled EC within one.

See ECCC
Page B4

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT/THE MERIDIAN STAR

SQUEEZING THROUGH

East Central Community College's Mystee Dale tries to power her way past Southwest Community College defenders during the Region 23 tournament at Mississippi College in Clinton.

WEEK OF 3-5-08

continued from previous page

ECCC

From Page B1

Phillips, Evans and Brown all had baskets as East Central scored the last 12 points of the first half — capping a 21-3 run which turned that nine-point deficit into a 36-27 lead.

The Lady Warriors were then able to keep Southwest at bay in the second half — never leading by more than 12 but never allowing the Lady Bears any closer than five.

"I thought Allison Phillips hit some big buckets for us in the first half and we were able to settle in and gain our composure there," Smith said.

"And Brown played well ... she shot the ball much better than she has been.

"We really had to have everybody step up to win, and we did. I thought all of ours played well."

Brown scored a team-best 18 points for the Lady Warriors, while Evans and Mystee Dale scored 15 apiece.

Rashima Jenkins was also in double figures with 14 points, while Phillips just missed with nine.

Out-hustling Southwest on the boards, East Central held a 41-29 edge in rebounds and also handed out 18 assists.

Dale had nine rebounds, five assists and three steals; Evans grabbed seven rebounds; Brown handed out five assists; while Jordon Patterson and Alisha McAfee each had three assists.

Griffin finished with a game-high 23 points to lead Southwest, while Taylor had 15 points, four assists and five steals.

Brabham wound up with 11 points, while Wiltz and Griffin shared team-high honors with eight rebounds apiece.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF 3-5-08

Juco Basketball

Region 23 Finals

PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

UP SHE GOES

East Central Community College's Mystee Dale puts up a shot in traffic during the Lady Warriors' win over Holmes in the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament finals Thursday night.

EC brings home title

from staff reports

The women's basketball team from East Central Community College is headed to Kansas.

The Lady Warriors, who made an early exit in last week's state tournament, completed an emphatic run through the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament Thursday night with a 67-62 win over Holmes Community College.

The win, which came against the same upstart Lady Bulldogs who knocked off ECCC last week, improved East Central to 22-6 overall and qualifies the Lady Warriors for the NJCAA National Championship Tournament which begins March 18 in Salina, Kansas.

In Thursday's action at Mississippi College's A.E. Wood Coliseum in Clinton, East Central had an eight-point advantage at halftime (35-27) — and although the Lady Bulldogs went back on top early in a seesaw second half — staved off Holmes for the win.

Rashima Jenkins pumped in a game-high 20 points to lead ECCC, while freshman guard Mystee Dale of Choctaw scored 18. Tanesha Brown was also in double figures with 12 points, while Newton's Tawayatha Evans and former Leake Academy standout Allison Phillips chipped in six apiece.

Dominique Harris led Holmes with 19 points, while Ashley Brown scored 17. The Lady Bulldogs, who lost three of four matchups with ECCC this season, finished 14-14.

East Central defeated South Division rival Southwest Mississippi and MACJC state champion Itawamba on its way to the region crown.

— Rocky Higginbotham

APPEARED IN:

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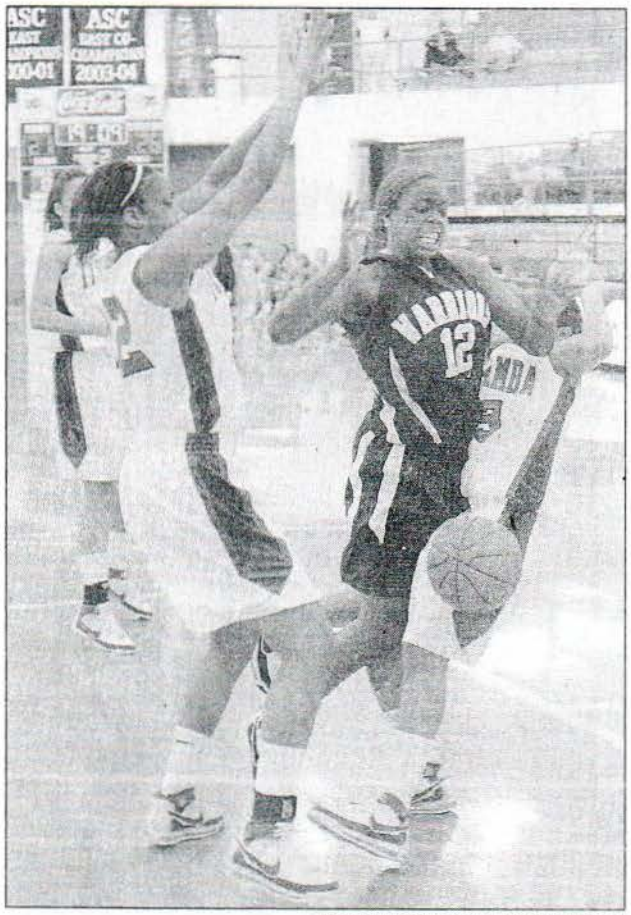

PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

ITAWAMBA SANDWICH

East Central Community College's Rashima Jenkins loses the ball as she gets fouled during the Lady Warriors' contest against Itawamba in the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament at Mississippi College in Clinton Wednesday. The Lady Warriors won 75-59 to advance to the championship game against tonight at 6 p.m.

PICTURE THIS

PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

DRIVING TO THE BASKET

East Central Community College's Rashima Jenkins gets around Southwest Community College defenders to make a shot from the lane Monday during the Region 23 tournament at Mississippi College in Clinton. Story, page B1.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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WEEK OF 3-5-08

ON THE WAY

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

Itawamba's Jasmine Larry pushes the ball off to a teammate as East Central Community College's Jordon Patterson, left, and Tanesha Brown scramble for the ball during the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament at Mississippi College in Clinton Wednesday. The Lady Warriors defeated the Lady Indians 75-59 to advance to the championship game against Holmes Community College tonight at 6 p.m..

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WEEK OF 3-5-08

NJCAA Region 23 Basketball Tournament

One win away ...

PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

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BIG GUN

East Central Community College's Mystee Dale gets cut off by Itawamba defenders during Region 23 tournament action in Clinton Wednesday. Dale scored 24 points in the Lady Warriors' victory.

East Central ladies move into tourney finals

By Rocky Higginbotham
sports editor

East Central Community College didn't necessarily play its best basketball during the month of February, when the Lady Warriors suffered four of their six losses after a 16-2 start.

But with one more win today, coach Bill Smith's squad will be headed to the NJCAA National Championship Tournament.

East Central posted 51 points in the second half Wednesday afternoon, pulling away from Itawamba to beat the Lady Indians 75-59 in the semifinals of the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament.

The win lifted East Central to 21-6 overall and moved them into today's championship game against Holmes. Itawamba, which won the MACJC state championship last week, finished 21-9.

ECCC **75**

ITAWAMBA **59**

ECCC managed just a 24-21 lead at halftime Wednesday at Mississippi College's A.E. Wood Coliseum in Clinton, but quickly took control in the second half.

Freshman guard Mystee Dale of Choctaw Central poured in a game-high 24 points to lead East Central, while former Newton standout Tawayatha Evans and Rashima Jenkins were in double figures with 13 points each.

Courtney Cannon led Itawamba with 20 points.

ECCC will now square off against the very same Holmes squad which beat the Lady Warriors 74-69 in their state tournament opener last week in Fulton.

The Cinderella Lady Bulldogs, who now stand 14-13, opened the Region 23 tourney with an overtime, buzzer-beating win and then surprised Copiah-Lincoln 67-64 in the semifinals Wednesday.

It's the fourth meeting of the season for ECCC and Holmes — the Lady Warriors won the previous two by double digits — and the winner advances to the NJCAA national tourney which begins March 18 in Salina, Kansas.

WEEK OF 3-9-08

ECCC Lady Warriors- Region 23 Champs!

East Central Community College's Lady Warriors celebrate winning the Region 23 Championship following their 67-62 victory over Holmes Community College Thursday night at Mississippi College's A. E. Wood Coliseum in Clinton. The ECCC women, who improved to 22-6 under third-year head coach Bill Smith, advance to the 2008 NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship scheduled March 18-22 in Salina, Kansas. East Central posted wins over Southwest (81-72) and Itawamba (75-59) prior to defeating the Lady Bulldogs for the region title. (EC Photo)

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UNION APPEAL _____

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3-9-08

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Dale, Evans Make All-Tourney Team

Lady Warriors Mystee Dale (left) and Tawayatha Evans were named to the All-Region 23 Tournament Team after helping lead East Central Community College to a 67-62 win over the Holmes Community College Lady Bulldogs for the region championship Thursday night at Mississippi College. Dale, a product of Choctaw Central High School, was among EC's top scorers with 18 points and Evans, of Newton, made four clutch free throws in the game's final seconds to clinch the victory. The Lady Warriors, 22-6, will now advance to the 2008 NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship scheduled March 18-22 in Salina, Kansas. (EC Photo)

WEEK OF 3-9-08

ECCC Basketball

Lady Warriors claim region title

Tawayatha Evans made four of five free throws in the game's final 30 seconds to lift the East Central Community College Lady Warriors to a 67-62 win over Holmes Community College for the Region 23 Championship Thursday night at Mississippi College's A. E. Wood Coliseum in Clinton.

East Central, whose record stands at 22-6 under third-year head coach Bill Smith, will now advance to the 2008 NJCAA Division I Basketball Championship scheduled March 18-22 in Salina, Kansas.

DALE

Evans, a Newton High School product and Mystee Dale, a former standout at Choctaw Central, were named to the All-Region 23 Tournament Team. Dale finished the night with 18 points and nine rebounds. Evans had six points and five rebounds.

Rashima Jenkins, who hails from Airline High School in Bossier City, La., led all scorers with 20 points.

Other EC point makers were Allison Phillips of Leake Academy, six; Jordan Patterson of Oak Hill Academy and Chotsani Henderson of Newton, two each; and Alisha McAfee of Northwest Rankin, one.

Dominique Harris pumped in 19 points to lead the Lady Bulldogs, whose season ends at 14-14.

EC held a 35-27 advantage at halftime.

ECCC 75
Itawamba 59

The Lady Warriors cruised to a 75-59 victory over the state champion Itawamba Community College Lady Indians in semi-final action on Wednesday.

Dale was the leading scorer for EC with 24 points.

Other scorers were Evans and Jenkins, 13 each; Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine, eight; Henderson, seven;

➤ See ECCC on 9A

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3-9-08
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from 7A

Phillips, four; and Sha Coleman of Newton County, Jalessa Sanders of South Leake and McAfee; two each.

Courtney Coleman had 20 points to lead the Lady Indians, who finished the season with a 21-9 mark.

EC led 24-21 at the break.

ECCC 81
Southwest 72

The Lady Warriors began tournament competition by posting an 81-72 decision over Southwest Mississippi Community College on Monday, March 3.

Brown was EC's top scorer with 18 points. Also scoring were Evans, 17; Jenkins, 14; Dale, 13; Phillips, nine; Henderson, six; and McAfee and Patterson, two each.

Kimberly Griffin poured in 24 points to lead the Lady Bears, who ended the season action at 18-8.

The Lady Warriors were up 36-27 at the break.

WEEK OF 3-9-08

Free throws lift ECCC past Holmes for Region 23 title

Tawayatha Evans made four of five free throws in the game's final 30 seconds to lift the East Central Community College Lady Warriors to a 67-62 win over Holmes Community College for the Region 23 Championship Thursday night at Mississippi College's A. E. Wood Coliseum in Clinton.

East Central, whose record stands at 22-6 under third-year head coach Bill Smith, will now advance to the 2008 NJCAA Division I Basketball Championship scheduled March 18-22 in Salina, Kansas.

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Rashima Jenkins, who hails from Airline High School in Bossier City, La., led all scorers with 20 points. Other EC point makers were Allison Phillips of Leake Academy, six; Jordan Patterson of Oak Hill Academy and Chotsani Henderson of Newton, two each; and Alisha McAfee of Northwest Rankin, one.

Dominique Harris pumped in 19 points to lead the Lady Bulldogs, whose season ends at 14-14.

EC held a 35-27 advantage at halftime.

ECCC 75, Itawamba 59

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See **ECCC**, page 9A

ECCC

Continued from page 7A

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The Lady Warriors were up 36-27 at the break.

Make tourney team

Lady Warriors Mystee Dale (left) and Tawayatha Evans were named to the All-Region 23 Tournament Team after helping lead East Central Community College to a 67-62 win for the region championship Thursday night. Dale, a product of Choctaw Central High School, was among EC's top scorers with 18 points and Evans, of Newton, made four clutch free throws in the game's final seconds to clinch the victory. (EC Photo)

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3-9-08

East Central women win Region 23

Evans' free throws lift ECCC past Holmes for Region 23 Title.

Special to the Record

Tawayatha Evans made four of five free throws in the game's final 30 seconds to lift the East Central Community College Lady Warriors to a 67-62 win over Holmes Community College for the Region 23 Championship Thursday night at Mississippi College's A. E. Wood Coliseum in Clinton.

East Central, whose record stands at 22-6 under third-year head coach Bill Smith, will now advance to the 2008 NJCAA Division I Basketball Championship scheduled March 18-22 in Salina, Kansas.

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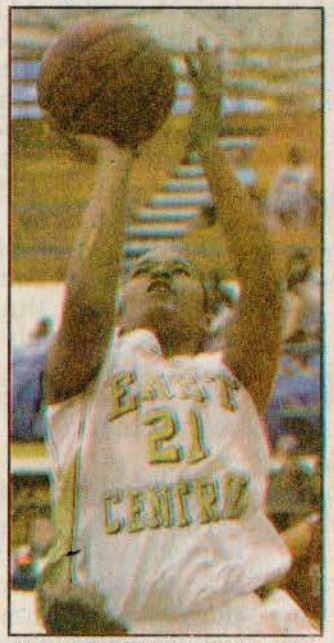
Rashima Jenkins, who hails from Airline High

See **ECCC**, Page 2B



PAULA MERRITT/THE MERIDIAN STAR

East Central Community College's Mystee Dale puts up a shot against Holmes.

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE PHOTO

East Central Community College's Lady Warriors celebrate winning the Region 23 Championship following their 67-62 victory over Holmes Community College Thursday night at Mississippi College's A. E. Wood Coliseum in Clinton. The ECCC women, who improved to 22-6 under third-year head coach Bill Smith, advance to the 2008 NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship scheduled March 18-22 in Salina, Kansas. East Central posted wins over Southwest (81-72) and Itawamba (75-59) prior to defeating the Lady Bulldogs for the region title.

WEEK OF 3-9-08

Continued from previous page.

ECCC

From Page 1B

School in Bossier City, La., led all scorers with 20 points. Other EC point makers were Allison Phillips of Leake Academy, six; Jordan Patterson of Oak Hill Academy and Chotsani Henderson of Newton, two each; and Alisha McAfee of Northwest Rankin, one.

Dominique Harris pumped in 19 points to lead the Lady Bulldogs, whose season ends at 14-14.

EC held a 35-27 advantage at halftime.

ECCC 75, Itawamba 59

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Dale was the leading scorer for EC with 24 points. Other scorers were Evans and Jenkins, 13 each; Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine, eight; Henderson, seven; Phillips, four; and Sha Coleman of Newton County, Jalessa Sanders of South Leake and McAfee, two each.

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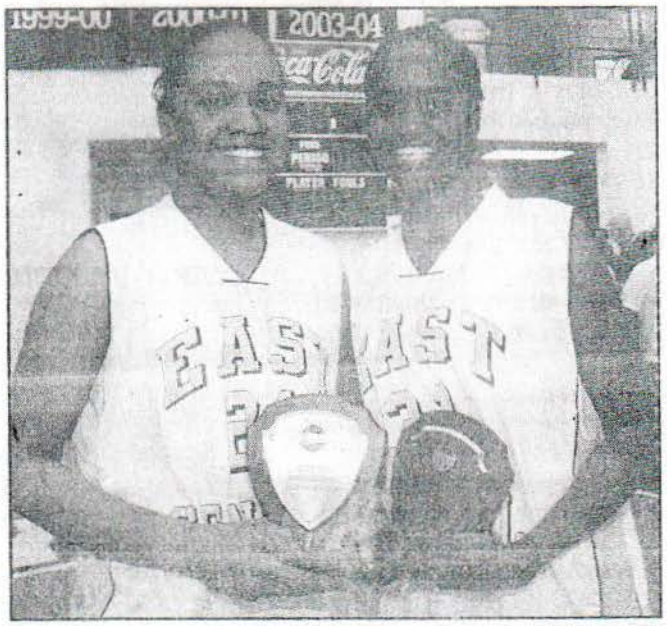
EC led 24-21 at the break.



EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE PHOTO

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ECCC 81, Southwest 72

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Kimberly Griffin poured in 24 points to lead the Lady Bears, who ended season action at 18-8. The Lady Warriors were up 36-27 at the break.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF 3-9-08

Region champ Lady Warriors set

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

For the fourth time in school history, the East Central Community College Lady Warrior basketball team will be performing on a national stage.

By winning the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament last week at Mississippi College in Clinton, EC's Lady Warriors will be playing in the NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship at Salina, Kan., March 18-22.

In the regional, EC knocked off Southwest Mississippi Community College 81-72, MACJC state champion Itawamba Community College 75-59, and Holmes Community College 67-62.

"It's one of the goals you set out to do each year," EC coach Bill Smith said of qualifying for tne national tournament. "Fortunately, this time we'll go."

It was a strong comeback for the Lady Warriors, who lost to Holmes in the opening round of the MACJC State Tournament two weeks ago. A short stay in the state tournament may have been just what the Lady Warriors needed.

"Getting beat by Holmes that first game might have woke us up a little bit," Smith said. "Now, they made up their minds they were going to have to play if they wanted to keep playing and we had three pretty good ballgames."

The complete field for the national tournament won't be known until this week as several regionals are still in progress.

EC women	**81**
Southwest	**72**

The Lady Warriors overcame a nine-point deficit in beating Southwest in the quarterfinals on March 3.

EC closed the first half with a 21-3 run to take a 36-27 lead into halftime after trailing the Lady Bears 24-15.

A basket from Allison Phillips and a 3-pointer from Tanesha Brown got the Lady Warriors back in the game and a putback from Tawayatha Evans pulled EC to within one. Phillips, Evans, and Brown all had baskets as EC scored the last 12 points of the half.

The Lady Warriors maintained a 5-12 point lead throughout the second half.

Brown and Evans led EC with 18 and 17 points respectively as the Lady Warriors improved to 20-6.

EC also got 14 points from Rashima Jenkins, 13 from Mystee Dale, nine from Phillips, and six from Chotsani Henderson.

The Lady Warriors claimed a 41-29 advantage on the boards. Dale had nine rebounds, five assists, and three steals. Evans grabbed seven boards.

"We really had to have everybody step up to win, and we did. I thought all of ours played well," said EC coach Bill Smith.

Kimberly Griffin led Southwest, 18-8 with 24 points. Phenicia Taylor scored 15 and Erin Brabham added 11.

EC women	**75**
Itawamba	**59**

The Lady Warriors held the state champions scoreless for nearly six minutes to start the second half, turning a 24-21 halftime edge into a 35-21 advantage.

The loss snapped Itawamba's 13-game winning streak.

ICC didn't score its first basket of the second half until the 14:06 mark when Courtney Cannon hit a short runner. By then, the Lady Warriors had put up 11 unanswered points.

The Lady Warriors extended their lead to as many as 22 points late in the game.

Mystee Dale scored 24 points, while Rashima Jenkins and Tawayatha

East Central Community College's Lady Warriors celebrate winning the Region 23 Championship following their 67-62 victory over Holmes Community College Thursday night at Mississippi College's A.E. Wood Coliseum in Clinton. The ECCC women, who improved to 22-6 under third-year head coach Bill Smith, advance to the 2008 NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship scheduled March 18-22 in Salina, Kan. ECCC posted wins over Southwest (81-72) and Itawamba (75-59) prior to defeating Holmes for the region title.

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sites on Kansas

Salina JUCO BASKETBALL BLAST

NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship Qualifiers

Region/District	Champion	Record
1/A	Central Arizona College	31-0
2/B	Univ. Arkansas-Fort Smith	31-1
3,12,15/C	Monroe CC (NY)	20-7
4,13/D	Sauk Valley (IL) (21-9) at Lake Region (ND) (25-6) •	
5/E	Midland College (TX)	28-5
6/F	Cloud County (26-6) vs. Barton County (31-2) •	
7/G	Walters State (TN) CC	29-4
8/H	Gulf Coast (FL) CC	32-1
9/I	Western Nebraska CC	30-4
10,17/J	Georgia Perimeter College	19-14
11,16/K	Jefferson College (MO)	31-1
14/L	Trinity Valley CC (TX)	26-5
18/M	College of Southern Idaho	30-2
22/N	Shelton State CC (AL)	28-4
23/O	East Central CC (MS)	22-6
24/P	Southeastern Illinois	31-2

• *District finals set for March 11.*

Evans both scored 15 to lead the Lady Warriors, 21-6. EC also got eight points from Tanesha Brown, seven from Chotsani Henderson, and four from Allison Phillips.

"They've got a good team with a lot of talent," ICC coach Nanci Gray said.

Courtney Coleman led Itawamba with 20 points. Jessica Collins added 12. The Lady Indians finished 21-9 after losing seven of their first eight games.

EC women	**67**
Holmes	**62**

The Lady Warriors scored seven of the game's final nine points in Thursday's title game.

Tawayatha Evans sealed the win by making 4-of-5 free throws in the final 30 seconds.

Holmes held a slim two-point lead with 1:11 to go, but was unable to hold on.

Holmes led by as many as four points in the first half before the Lady Warriors went up 35-25 on back-to-back baskets by Tanesha Brown.

EC led 35-27 at the break.

Holmes stormed back to open the second half. Two Portia Webster baskets and a Felexis Bryant steal and assist to Ashley Brown tied the game at 35.

EC held a three-point lead with 14:50 to go until a 3-pointer by Dominique Harris tied the game at 40. After that point, neither team held more than a two-point lead after a lead change until the closing seconds.

Rashima Jenkins led EC, 22-6, with a game-high 20 points. Mystee Dale was a close second with 18. Evans scored nine and Allison Phillips added six.

Dale also pulled down nine rebounds, while Evans had five.

Evans and Dale were both named to the All-Region 23 Tournament team.

Harris led Holmes, 14-14, with 19 points. Ashley Brown added 17.

WEEK OF 3-9-08

Lady Warriors drop four out of six

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors split doubleheaders with Jones and Itawamba before losing a pair at Pearl River in last week's fastpitch action.

The Lady Warriors are off until March 18 when they host Hinds in their MACJC Central Division opener.

EC	**1-2**
Jones	**0-10**

The Lady Warriors took the March 4 opener at Ellisville behind the shutout pitching of Codee Russell, who tossed a five-hit complete game.

The game's only run came in the fifth when Laura Smith singled and scored on a single by Leah Dennis.

Smith had two singles for EC. Haley Chipley had a double. Sondreia Hillie and Dennis added singles.

Candi Farris singled twice for JCJC, while Jolee Belflower had a double.

Kacy Stewart took the tough luck loss for the Lady Bobcats.

In the nightcap, Katie Holifield improved to 4-0 with a four-hitter. She struck out four.

Leading 3-1, the Lady Bobcats pulled away with six runs in the bottom of the fourth inning.

Dennis took the loss for

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EC. Erin Breland came on in relief in the fifth.

Dennis had two singles for the Lady Warriors. Lindsey Stevens and Shenique Brass added singles.

Meghan Romero had three singles for JCJC.

With the split, EC's record went to 5-5, while Jones is 8-4.

Itawamba	**11-2**
EC	**8-10**

The Lady Warriors scored 10 runs in their final two at-bats in Wednesday's nightcap at Decatur to come away with a split.

EC, 7-7, had nine hits with Kristen Pillsbury and Shenique Brass both getting a double.

Codee Russell tossed a six-hitter to get the win.

In the opener, Itawamba bounced back from a 5-0 deficit after one inning to get the win.

EC had seven hits with Emily Thrash getting a triple.

Erin Breland took the loss.

Pearl River	**10-3**
EC	**3-0**

The Lady Warriors dropped a pair to Pearl River Saturday at Poplarville.

The Lady Wildcats took control of the opener with a seven-run second inning after EC had taken an early 3-0 lead.

Pearl River outhit the Lady Warriors 12-6. Whitnee White led EC with a pair of singles. Hayley Chipley and Lindsey Stevens each had one hit and one RBI, Sondreia Hillie doubled and had an RBI, and Shenique Brass had one hit and one RBI.

Codee Russell (4-3) took the loss.

In the second game, the Lady Warriors were one-hit, that coming on a single by Kristen Pillsbury.

Amber Smith gave up three earned runs in 6 1/3 to take the loss.

The Lady Warriors dropped to 7-9.

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Goings On

Men's College Basketball

■ Miss. Valley vs. UCLA in West Regional at Anaheim, Calif.

Women's College Basketball

■ Arkansas-Little Rock at Southern Miss in WNIT.

Men's Junior College Basketball

■ Itawamba vs. Georgia Perimeter in NJCAA Tournament at Hutchinson, Kan.

Women's Junior College Basketball

■ East Central in NJCAA Tournament at Salina, Kan.

College Baseball

■ Miss. College at Texas-Dallas, 2 p.m.

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WEEK OF 3/17

Lady Warriors Win Regional

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—East Central Community College's Lady Warriors celebrated winning the Region 23 basketball Championship following their 67-62 victory over Holmes Community College on March 6 at Mississippi College's A. E. Wood Coliseum in Clinton.

The ECCC women improved to 22-6 under third-year head coach Bill Smith.

East Central posted wins over Southwest (81-72) and Itawamba (75-59) prior to defeating the Lady Bulldogs for the region title.

The No. 13 seed Lady Warriors will take on Southeastern Illinois' fourth-seeded Lady Falcons, 31-2, today at 2 p.m. in the Bicentennial Center in the NJCAA Division 1 Women's Basketball National Championship at Salina, Kan.

Southeastern, the Region 24 champion, was ranked sixth in the NJCAA poll following regular season action. East Central was rated as high as 11th during the 2007-08 campaign but was not ranked in the final poll.

The ECCC/Southeastern winner will meet the winner of the Barton County/Shelton State contest at 8 p.m. Thursday.

Losers of both games will battle at 2 p.m. Thursday. The double-elimination tournament continues through Saturday with finals set for 7 p.m.

Live broadcasts are provided over the Internet at www.KSALlink.com.

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THE UNION APPEAL

SPOR

Lady Warriors to play role of David in Salina

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

With the Region 23 Tournament championship trophy secured, the East Central Community College Lady Warriors are playing in the 2008 NJCAA Women's Basketball Championship this week.

Fifteen other teams from across the country join the Lady Warriors, 22-6, in Salina, Kan.

"We set a few goals for our team at the beginning of the year," said EC coach Bill Smith. "We didn't reach them all, but I thought we had a mighty good year."

It will be EC's fourth appearance in the nationals with the others coming in 1994, 2001, and 2004.

The Lady Warriors had Tuesday off when the tournament opened, but will face Southeastern Illinois College, 31-2, today at 2 p.m.

Also on hand are traditional juco powers Central Arizona College (31-0), University of Arkansas-Fort Smith (31-1), Midland (Texas) College (28-5), College of Southern Idaho (30-2), Trinity Valley (Texas) Community College (26-5), and Gulf Coast (Fla.) Community College (32-1).

Rounding out the field are Jefferson (Mo.) College (31-1), Barton County (Kan.) Community College (32-2), Western Nebraska Community College (30-4), Walters State (Tenn.) Community College (29-4), Shelton State (Ala.) Community College (28-4), Lake Region (N.D.) State College (26-6), Monroe (N.Y.) Community College (20-7), and Georgia Perimeter College (19-14).

Those schools aren't bound by the Mississippi Association of Community/Junior College's vastly more restrictive recruiting rules. For example, while EC is limited to just two out-of-staters, the Illinois and Florida representatives both have just one player from their home state.

"It's going to be a very competitive field of 16," Smith said. "We probably don't match up with some of the teams like some of the stronger teams would. We're going to be very small. We'll probably be the smallest team out there.

"We're just going to go out there and give it the best shot we can."

"It's exciting, especially with me being shorter than what we're going to be playing against," said 5-foot-6 sophomore guard Jordon Patterson. "You can leave everything that you have on the court — all your energy and the love of the game— and just hope to come out with a win."

EC's tallest players are Tawayatha Evans (8.7 ppg, 6.3 rpg) and Rashima Jenkins (17.2 ppg, 7.0 rpg), both at 5-foot-9. At Salina, they'll run into at least one girl that stands a foot taller in Barton County's 6-foot-9 Melivier Besnoin.

"We can go around her," offered freshman Mystee Dale

Lady Warriors in the Nationals

1994	
at Tyler, Texas	
Central Arizona	71-78
Casper, Wyo.	68-58
Truett-McConnell, Ga.	85-84
Independence, Kan.	71-62
2001	
at Salina, Kan.	
Cloud County, Kan.	73-74
Central Arizona	61-102
2004	
at Salina, Kan.	
Three Rivers, Mo.	64-76
Lake Region, N.D.	74-66
Weatherford, Texas	63-52
Southern Idaho	48-58
2008	
at Salina, Kan.	
Southeastern Illinois	
Barton County/Shelton State	

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continued from the previous page

Members of the 2007-08 East Central Community College women's basketball team are (front row, from left) Sha Coleman, Jaleesa Sanders, Courtney James, Rashima Jenkins, and Allison Phillips, (second row) Alisa Matlock, Mystee Dale, Tanesha Brown, Alisha McAfee, Michaela Lee, and Jordon Patterson, (third row) head coach Bill Smith, Carlena Clemmons, Tawayatha Evans, Chotsani Henderson, and assistant coach Blessing Chekwa, and (back row) managers Cortney Miller, Nicole Williams, Kathrine Taylor, and Queena Gage.

EC photo

(13.8 ppg, 5.2 rpg), a vital cog in Choctaw Central's 2005 Class 3A state championship team. "We're all excited."

While Southeastern Illinois has just one player from Illinois, four other states and one foreign country are represented on its roster.

The Lady Falcons have a Mississippi connection as well. Three players from SIC's squad have signed with Mississippi State. They are 6-foot-5 Chanel Mokango (14.1 ppg), 5-foot-9 Armelie Lumanu (16.2 ppg), and 6-foot-3 Rima Kalonda (11.4 ppg), all of Kinshasa, Congo, Africa.

"They're definitely going to be much, much bigger than we are so we'll just have to do a lot of pressing and hopefully running up and down the floor," Smith said.

In winning the Region 24 Tournament, SIC defeated Olney Central (79-45), Lincoln Trail (59-25), and John A. Logan (62-52).

While scoring 120 points in a 120-39 blowout of Olive-Harvey, SIC held six of its last eight opponents to 45 points or less.

"They're just so big and it's hard for people to shoot over them," Smith said.

The Lady Falcons are

Continued on 4B...
See Salina...

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Continued from the previous page.

Salina...

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making their sixth-straight national tournament appearance. They came in fifth in 2006 and fourth last year.

Jenkins, a freshman from Bossier City, La., is looking forward to seeing how she and the Lady Warriors match up with the nation's best.

"I've never played in something like this," Jenkins said. "In high school, we did play in the (Louisiana) state tournament my junior year and my senior year I played in the all-star game. That's as close as I've come to something like this... nothing like the nationals. I'm looking forward to it."

Evans, a sophomore, was a big part of Newton's Class 2A state championship in 2005.

"This is even bigger because it may be my last year playing," Evans said. "It's something that I really looked forward to and wanted to do before I stopped playing ball."

Freshman Allison Phillips (4.0 ppg, 2.8 rpg) played on back-to-back Class AA state champion teams in 2006 and 2007 at Leake Academy. She's glad the Lady Warriors rebounded after a first-round exit in the MACJC State Tournament.

"We didn't really play too good in the state tournament, but we bounced back from that and did pretty good in the regional," Phillips said.

Sophomore Tanesha Brown adds 15.3 points for EC.

Win or lose today, EC will face Shelton State of Tuscaloosa, Ala., or Barton County in second-round action Thursday. An opening-round loss would have EC playing at 2 p.m., while a win over SIC would have them returning to action at 8 p.m.

The 12th-seeded Lady Bucs of Shelton State captured the Region 22 Tournament to improve to 28-4. They posted wins over Lawson State (95-59), Bevill-Fayette (56-50), and Northwest Shoals (56-50).

Five-foot-9 guard Margaret Bell (14.0 ppg) leads the Lady Bucs in scoring. She is followed by 6-foot forward/center Darnisha Lyles (10.9 ppg, 10.4 rpg).

Shelton coach Madonna Thompson was a teammate of Decatur native Betsy Harris on the University of Alabama's 1994 NCAA Final Four squad.

Shelton reached the 2000 NJCAA Final Four, placing fourth. SSCC won Region 22 titles in 2006 and 2007.

"Shelton's got a real good team and they're coming out of the Alabama region," Smith said. "They should be somebody we could match up a little bit better with."

Barton County would definitely be no bargain. In winning Region 6, Barton beat Neosho County (104-23), Labette (72-52), Independence (62-55), and Cloud County (52-40) to improve to 31-2. Each of the Region 6 quarterfinalists had at least 20 wins.

The fifth-seeded Cougars, whose lineup includes 6-foot-5 Inga Muciniece (12.1 ppg, 10.7 rpg) of Latvia along with the 6-foot-9 Besnoin, defeated Jones Junior College 90-65 in the Hoop-n-Surf Classic in Hawaii on Nov. 21.

Courtney Sturdivant of Connecticut averages 14.4 points, followed by Ipek Turkyilmaz (14.1 ppg) of Turkey and Kristine Silaraja (12.8 ppg) of Latvia.

"It's hard to coach against 6-5s and 6-9s when you've got 5-10s," Smith said. "We'll just have to go out there and battle the best we can."

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WEEK OF 3/17

The Newton Record

SPORTS 1B

Wednesday, March 19, 2008

ECCC women get tough draw

ECCC Lady Warriors begin NJCAA tourney action today against Southeastern Illinois

Special to the Record

Region 23 Champion East Central Community College will take on Southeastern Illinois Wednesday afternoon to begin competition in the NJCAA Division 1 Women's Basketball National Championship at Salina, Kansas.

The No. 13 seed Lady Warriors, who are 22-6 overall under third-year head coach Bill Smith, will battle the fourth-seeded Lady Falcons, who sport an overall 31-2 record, at 2 p.m. in the Bicentennial Center.

Southeastern, the Region 24 champion, was ranked sixth in the NJCAA poll following regular season action.

East Central was rated as high as 11th during the 2007-08 campaign but was not ranked in the final poll.

The ECCC/Southeastern winner will meet the winner of the Barton County/Shelton State contest at 8 p.m. Thursday. Losers of both games will battle at 2 p.m. Thursday. Barton County, located in Great Bend, Kansas, is 32-2 and the No. 5 seed. Shelton State, located in Tuscaloosa, Ala., is 28-4 and is the No. 12 seed.

The double-elimination tournament continues through Saturday, March 22, with finals set for 7 p.m.

Live broadcasts of tournament action are provided over the Internet at www.KSALlink.com.

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WEEK OF 3/17

EC Lady Warriors begin tournament action

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3/17

Juco Basketball: NJCAA Women's National Championships

Lady Warriors are bound for Kansas

By Marty Stamper
Special to The Star

DECATUR — By winning the NJCAA Region 23 Tournament two weeks ago, the East Central Community College Lady Warriors earned the right to perform once again on the big stage.

The Lady Warriors, along with 15 other teams from across the nation, will be playing in the 2008 NJCAA Women's Basketball Championship in Salina, Kan., this week.

It's a fine finish for the 22-6 Lady Warriors, who had their ups and downs throughout the season.

"We set a few goals for our team at the beginning of the year," said EC coach Bill Smith. "We didn't reach them all, but I thought we had a mighty good year."

It will be EC's fourth appearance in the nationals with the others coming in 1994, 2001, and 2004.

The Lady Warriors had today off as the tournament opened but will face Southeastern Illinois College, 31-2, Wednesday at 2 p.m.

Also on hand are traditional juco powers Central Arizona College (31-0), University of Arkansas-Fort Smith (31-1), Midland (Texas) College (28-5), College of Southern Idaho (30-2), Trinity Valley (Texas) Community College (26-5), and Gulf Coast (Fla.) Community College (32-1).

Rounding out the field are Jefferson (Mo.) College (31-1), Barton County (Kan.) Community College (32-2), Western Nebraska Community College (30-4), Walters State (Tenn.) Community College (29-4), Shelton State (Ala.) Community College (28-4), Lake Region (N.D.) State College (26-6), Monroe (N.Y.) Community College (20-7), and Georgia Perimeter College (19-14).

Those schools aren't bound by the Mississippi Association of Community/Junior College's vastly more restrictive recruiting rules. For example, while EC is limited to just two out-of-staters, the Illinois and Florida representatives both have just one player from their home state.

"It's going to be a very competitive field of 16," Smith said. "We probably don't match up with some of the teams like some of the stronger teams would. We're going to be very small. We'll probably be the smallest team out there.

"We're just going to go out there and give it the best shot we can."

"It's exciting, especially with me being shorter than what we're going to be playing against," said 5-foot-6 sophomore guard Jordon Patterson from Oak Hill Academy. "You can leave everything that you have on the court — all your energy and the love of the game — and just hope to come out with a win.

"Coach Smith let us know that we needed to set our mind on another goal even though we've reached one that we've already won."

EC's tallest players are Tawayatha Evans (8.7 ppg, 6.3 rpg) and Rashima Jenkins (17.2 ppg, 7.0 rpg), both at 5-foot-9. At Salina, they'll run into at least one girl that stands a foot taller in Barton County's 6-foot-9 Melivier Besnoin.

"We can go around her," offered freshman Mystee Dale (13.8 ppg, 5.2 rpg), a member of Choctaw Central's 2005 Class 3A state championship team. "We're all excited."

While Southeastern Illinois has just one player from Illinois, four other states and one foreign country are represented on the Lady Falcons' roster. Jenkins, a freshman from Bossier City, La., is

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THE MERIDIAN STAR
Tuesday, March 18, 2008

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ECCC

From Page B1

looking forward to seeing how she and the Lady Warriors match up with the nation's best.

"I've never played in something like this," Jenkins said. "In high school, we did play in the (Louisiana) state tournament my junior year and my senior year I played in the all-star game. That's as close as I've come to something like this ... nothing like the nationals. I'm looking forward to it."

Evans, a sophomore at EC, was a big part of Newton's Class 2A state championship in 2005.

"This is even bigger because it may be my last year playing," Evans said. "It's something that I really looked forward to and wanted to do before I stopped playing ball."

Freshman Allison Phillips (4.0 ppg, 2.8 rpg) played on back-to-back Class AA state champion teams in 2006 and 2007 at Leake Academy. She's glad the Lady Warriors rebounded after a first-round exit in the MACJC State Tournament.

"We didn't really play too good in the state tournament, but we bounced back from that and did pretty good in the regional," Phillips said.

EC also gets 15.3 points from sophomore Tanesha Brown.

Win or lose against Southeastern Illinois, EC will face Shelton State of Tuscaloosa, Ala., or Barton County in second-round action Thursday. An opening-round loss would have EC playing at 2 p.m., while a win over SIC would have them returning to action at 8 p.m.

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WEEK OF 3/17

Juco Basketball

EC's first opponent has MSU connections

By Marty Stamper
Special to The Star

After having Tuesday off in the NJCAA Women's National Basketball Championship, the Lady Warriors of East Central Community College will hit the court in Salina, Kan., today.

The Lady Warriors, 22-6, take on Southeastern Illinois College, 31-2, at 2 p.m. in the Bicentennial Center.

It will be EC's fourth appearance in the nationals with the others coming in 1994, 2001, and 2004.

The Region 23 champion Lady Warriors will definitely have their hands full against SIC.

The tallest players for the Lady Warriors are Tawayatha Evans (8.7 ppg, 6.3 rpg) and Rashima Jenkins (17.2 ppg, 7.0 rpg), both at 5-foot-9. Other starters are 5-foot-8 Mystee Dale (13.8 ppg, 5.2 rpg), 5-foot-4 Chotsani Henderson (2.5 ppg, 3.2 rpg), and 5-foot-6 Tanesha Brown (15.3 ppg, 2.4 rpg).

Top subs for the Lady Warriors are 5-foot-8 Allison Phillips (4.0 ppg, 2.8 rpg), 5-foot-5 Alisha McAfee (3.8 ppg), 5-foot-7 Alisa Matlock (5.4 ppg, 4.1 rpg), and 5-foot-6 Jordon Patterson (2.1 ppg).

The Lady Falcons from Harrisburg, Ill., have a Mississippi connection as well, as three players from SIC's squad have signed with Mississippi State.

They are 6-foot-5 Chanel Mokango (14.1 ppg, 6.7 rpg), 5-foot-9 Armelie Lumanu (16.2 ppg, 7.5 rpg, 5.4 apg), and 6-foot-3 Rima Kalonda (11.4 ppg, 6.8 rpg), all of Kinshasa, Congo, Africa.

Other starters are 5-foot-8 guard Christina Rozier (11.1 ppg, 4.5 apg) and 5-foot-11 guard Lydia Young (3.8 ppg, 4.1 rpg).

Top reserves are 6-foot-2 forward Stephan McSparin, 5-foot-9 guard Carolyn Mills, and 5-foot-8 guard Ashley Grimes.

"They're definitely going to be

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ECCC

From Page B1

much, much bigger than we are so we'll just have to do a lot of pressing and hopefully running up and down the floor," said EC coach Bill Smith.

While Southeastern Illinois has just one player from Illinois on its roster, four other states and one foreign country are represented.

In winning the Region 24 Tournament, SIC defeated Olney Central (79-45), Lincoln Trail (59-25), and Southwestern Illinois (62-52).

Although it scored 120 points in a 120-39 blowout of Olive-Harvey, SIC held six of its last eight opponents to 45 points or less. For the year, the Lady Falcons have averaged 74.8 points and given up only 50.2.

"They're just so big and it's hard for people to shoot over them," Smith said.

The Lady Falcons are making their sixth straight national tournament appearance. They came in fifth in 2006 and fourth last year.

Franqua Bedell is in his first year as head coach of SIC after moving up from the assistant ranks after Mississippi State hired former head coach Greg Franklin as an assistant with the Lady Bulldogs.

In their last six seasons, the Lady Falcons have compiled a 185-27 record.

Win or lose today, EC will face Shelton State Community College of Tuscaloosa, Ala., or Barton County (Kan.) Community College in second-round action on Thursday.

Shelton (28-4) and Barton (32-2) met in Tuesday night's late game. An opening-round loss today would have EC playing at 2 p.m., while a win over SIC would have them returning to action at 8 p.m.

3/17

Juco Basketball

Fast start fizzles for EC ladies

from school reports

No. 13 seed East Central Community College raced out to a early 17-point lead but the Lady Warriors were simply no match for fourth-seeded Southeastern Illinois Community College which rallied in a big way for a 74-48 blowout today in first-round action of the 2008 NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship in Salina, Kansas.

The Lady Warriors, who fell to 22-7 under third-year head coach Bill Smith, will now face Shelton State Community College of Tuscaloosa, Ala., in an elimination game at 2 p.m. Thursday at the Bicentennial Center. Shelton State (28-5), the No. 12 seed, fell 64-61 to No. 5 seed Barton County Community College of Great Bend, Kan., on Tuesday night.

Tanesha Brown had 19 points — including five 3-pointers — to lead ECCC scorers against Southeastern, which is located in Harrisburg, Ill. Also scoring in double figures were Rashina Jenkins with 14; and Mystee Dale of Choctaw Central with 12.Christina Rozier led Lady Falcon scorers with 14 points, and Southeastern improved to 32-2.

EC held a 36-33 advantage at halftime.

Lady Warriors battle Shelton in consolation matchup today

By Marty Stamper

Special to The Star

The NJCAA Women's Basketball National Championship will stage its own Mississippi-Alabama game today when the East Central Community College Lady Warriors take on Shelton State Community College of Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Tipoff in the Bicentennial Center in Salina, Kan., is set for 2 p.m.

EC, 22-7, lost 74-48 to fourth-seeded Southeastern Illinois College in its tournament opener Wednesday afternoon despite leading by as many as 17 points in the first half.

Shelton State, 28-5, gave fifth-seeded Barton County (Kan.) Community College a strong run for its money Tuesday night before coming up short 64-61. The loss snapped the Lady Bucs'

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ECCC

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22-game win streak. Shelton State trailed by as many as 14 points, but rallied to pull even twice in the final 3 minutes — the final time at 60 with 1:45 remaining — but was unable to maintain the charge.

The 12th-seeded Lady Bucs captured the Region 22 Tournament to earn their trip to the nationals.

They posted wins over Lawson State (95-59), Bevill-Fayette (56-50), and Northwest Shoals (56-50).

Shelton State coach Madonna Thompson was a teammate of Decatur native Betsy Harris on the University of Alabama's 1994 NCAA Final Four squad.

Shelton reached the 2000 NJCAA Final Four, placing fourth. Shelton also advanced to the nationals in 2006 and 2007. Only three players are back from last year's 31-4 squad, however.

"Shelton's got a real good team and they're coming out of the Alabama region," EC coach Bill Smith said. "They should be somebody we could match up a little bit better with."

The Lady Warriors definitely match up better with the Lady Bucs in size. Shelton's tallest players are 6-foot-1 center Ashley Young and 6-foot forward/center Darnisha Lyles (10.9 ppg, 10.4 rpg).

The leading scorer for Shelton State is 5-foot-9 freshman forward Margaret Bell at 14.0 points per contest. She also averages 5.6 rebounds. Lyles (55.5 percent) and Bell (54.1 percent) are both shooting over 50 percent from the field for the season.

Bell scored a team-high 21 points in the loss to Barton County.

The tallest players for the Lady Warriors are Tawayatha Evans (8.7 ppg, 6.3 rpg) and Rashima Jenkins (17.2 ppg, 7.0 rpg), both at 5-foot-9. Other starters are 5-foot-8 Mystee Dale (13.8 ppg, 5.2 rpg), 5-foot-4 Chotsani Henderson (2.5 ppg, 3.2 rpg), and 5-foot-6 Tanesha Brown (15.3 ppg, 2.4 rpg).

Brown led EC against Southeastern Illinois with a game-high 19 points. She was 5-of-11 from 3-point range.

Top subs for the Lady Warriors are 5-foot-8 Allison Phillips (4.0 ppg, 2.8 rpg), 5-foot-5 Alisha McAfee (3.8 ppg), 5-foot-7 Alisa Matlock (5.4 ppg, 4.1 rpg), and 5-foot-6 Jordon Patterson (2.1 ppg).

In the loss to Southeastern Illinois, the Lady Warriors had 15 of their shots blocked and managed just 12 second-half points after taking a 36-33 lead into halftime.

Shelton's success has come from behind the 3-point arc. Five-foot-3 point guard Ayla Guzzardo (9.3 ppg, 5.9 apg, 2.9 spg) is the team's 3-point ace, having made 47-of-102 attempts (46.1 percent) prior to the nationals.

Five-foot-6 guard Lauren Tucker (9.4 ppg), 5-foot-9 guard Marissa Carter (4.5 ppg), 5-foot-9 guard Carolina Powell (5.8 ppg), and Waynesboro native Marquisha Loper (9.3 ppg), a 5-foot-5 guard, are all shooting at least 32 percent from 3-point range.

In the first-round loss to Barton County, the Lady Bucs attempted 27 3-pointers and made eight. Guzzardo got all 12 of her points from behind the arc as she made four of her 10 attempts.

"We're not the biggest team out there, the fastest or the most talented, so we have to do the little things," Thompson said.

The Lady Bucs are averaging 78.6 points and allowing 59.1.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

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WEEK OF 3/17

THE MERIDIAN STAR
Friday, March 21, 2008 B1

Juco Basketball

East Central girls fall at nationals

from school reports

SALINA, Kansas — A championship season has come to an end for the East Central Community College Lady Warriors who were outscored 89-75 by Shelton State Community College in an elimination game Thursday afternoon in the NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball National Championship held at the Bicentennial Center in Salina, Kansas.

No. 13 seed East Central, which advanced to the national competition as the Region 23 champion, fell victim to a barrage of three-pointers by the twelfth-seeded Lady Buccaneers, who made 13 of 26 shots from beyond the arc.

The Lady Warriors, who finished 22-8 under third-year head coach Bill Smith, were led by Rashima Jenkins who pumped in 21 points. Jenkins is a product of Airline High School in Bossier City, La. Also scoring for EC were Mystee Dale of Choctaw Central, 19; Tawayatha Evans of Newton, 15; Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine, 14; and Allison Phillips of Leake Academy, six.

EC was five of nine (55.6 percent) from three-point range. Brown made four of eight attempts and Dale was successful on her only attempt.

Lauren Tucker had 18 points to lead Shelton State, of Tuscaloosa, Ala., which improved to 29-5. The Lady Buccaneers advance to semi-final action of the Consolation Bracket on Friday.

The Lady Warriors trailed 42-36 at the break.

East Central began competition in the double-elimination tournament by falling 74-48 Wednesday to No. 4 seed Southeastern Illinois Community College, located in Harrisburg.

APPEARED IN:

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SPIRIT OF MORTON
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NEWTON RECORD
MERIDIAN STAR ✓
CLARION-LEDGER
IMPACT

WEEK OF 3/17

ECCC women bow out

SALINA, Kan. — Shelton State (Ala.) made 13 of 26 3-point attempts to eliminate East Central Community College 89-75 in the NJCAA women's basketball tournament.

Rashima Jenkins led the Region 23 champion Lady Warriors (22-8) with 21 points, followed by **Mystee Dale** with 19, **Tawayatha Evans** with 15 and **Tanesha Brown** with 14.

Lauren Tucker had 18 points to lead Shelton State (29-5).

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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WEEK OF March 24

ESHOBA DEMOCRAT
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CLARION-LEDGER
THE PHILADELPHIAN

CARTHAGINIAN
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓
UNION APPEAL
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL
SPIRIT OF MORTON

ECCC PHOTO

SOPHOMORE LADY BASKETBALL WARRIORS HONORED

Above are sophomore members of the East Central Community College women's basketball team who were honored during "Sophomore Appreciation Night" held at the season-ending home basketball games Feb. 21 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus. Honorees, shown with family members, include (from left) Chotsani Henderson (32) and Tawayatha Evans (31), both products of Newton High School; Jordan Patterson (25) of Aberdeen and Oak Hill Academy; Tanesha Brown (22), Jackson Provine; Carlena Clemmons, Union; Alisa Matlock, Carthage; and student assistants Courtney Miller of Louisville and Queena Gage of Scott Central. The Lady Warriors are led by head coach Bill Smith and assistant Blessing Chekwa.

March 24

Lady Warriors Mystee Dale (left) and Tawayatha Evans were named to the All-Region 23 Tournament Team after helping lead East Central Community College to the region championship. Dale played at Choctaw Central High School, while Evans played at Newton High School.

EC photo

Tanesha Brown drained four 3-pointers to help stake EC to a 29-12 lead.

It was Southeastern's largest deficit of the season and it was obvious the Lady Falcons didn't like it one bit.

Southeastern answered with a 21-5 rally that trimmed the lead to one before the Lady Warriors took a 36-33 lead into halftime.

SIC scored the first eight points of the second half and a Christina Rozier jumper in the lane gave the Falcons their first lead since 3-0.

The Lady Falcons used a 17-1 run to extend their lead to make it 69-46 with 3:51 to play.

"We knew what we were up against, so we just came out loose as a goose and played our best half of basketball all year in the first half," EC coach Bill Smith said. "I think they realized they were about to get upset by a bunch of mighty mites from Mississippi and they started playing.

"We couldn't get anything in the post against their size and that was the difference in the game. It's tough to match up 5-8 and 5-9 girls against 6-5 and 6-3, but I'm proud of the way we played and the way we hustled."

Brown led EC with a game-high 19 points. She was 5-of-11 from 3-point range. Rashima Jenkins had 14 points and nine rebounds. Mystee Dale had 12 points,

Continued on 4B...
See Nationals...

March 24

Continued from previous page.

Lady Warriors go two and out in nationals

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors were unable to come away with a win in the 2008 NJCAA Women's Basketball Championship last week as they dropped both of their games in Salina, Kan.

EC lost 74-48 to Southeastern Illinois College in its tournament opener, then was eliminated with an 89-75 loss to Shelton State (Ala.) Community College in its second outing.

The Lady Warriors were clearly in trouble as the two games wore on as Southeastern and Shelton combined for a 56-6 scoring advantage from their subs.

It was more a case of the level of competition the Lady Warriors were up against than them playing poorly either game.

"The first half against Southeastern was probably the best half we played all year," EC coach Bill Smith said. "They made some adjustments at halftime and we weren't able to score as easily in the second half.

"Our scouting report said that Shelton didn't shoot very well outside but they made 13 out of 25 3-pointers and I thought that was the difference in the game.

"They were both very, very good basketball teams. We played as hard as we could and did the best we could. Unfortunately, we were not able to come out and win either ballgame."

The Lady Warriors finished their season with a 22-8 record.

Southeastern Ill.	**74**
East Central	**48**

Despite leading by as many as 16 points in the first half, the Lady Warriors were eventually blown out in their tournament opener last Wednesday.

Southeastern outscored EC 41-12 in the second half to pull away. The Lady Warriors made only 4-of-31 shots from the floor in the second half.

Cold shooting and Southeastern's height advantage eventually took its toll.

The Lady Warriors, who had 15 of their shots blocked, were only 15-of-50 inside the 3-point arc and 5-of-18 behind the line for the game. Even uncontested shots proved difficult as EC was only 3-of-10 at the free-throw line.

Despite the size disadvantage, EC hung with the Lady Falcons on the boards as they were only outrebounded 47-45.

The Lady Warriors got little help from their bench as Southeastern's bench outscored EC's 19-0.

EC claimed an early 12-5 lead and led by as many as 17 points in the first half.

Lady Warriors in the Nationals

1994	
at Tyler, Texas	
Central Arizona	71-78
Casper, Wyo.	68-58
Truett-McConnell, Ga.	85-84
Independence, Kan.	71-62
2001	
at Salina, Kan.	
Cloud County, Kan.	73-74
Central Arizona	61-102
2004	
at Salina, Kan.	
Three Rivers, Mo.	64-76
Lake Region, N.D.	74-66
Weatherford, Texas	63-52
Southern Idaho	48-58
2008	
at Salina, Kan.	
Southeastern Illinois	48-74
Shelton State, Ala.	75-89

WEEK OF March 24

Continued from previous page.

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT
NEWTON RECORD
MERIDIAN STAR
CLARION-LEDGER
THE PHILADELPHIAN

Nationals...

Continued from 3B...

four rebounds, and three assists. Tawayatha Evans had eight rebounds, while Allison Phillips had five boards.

Southeastern placed five players in double figures. Rozier led the Lady Falcons with 14 points. Six-foot-5 Rima Kalonda scored 13, Armelie Lumanu and Chanel Mokango both had 12, and Carolyn Mills tossed in 11. Ashley Grimes was a near miss with eight.

Mokango also had 10 rebounds and blocked seven shots. Lumanu had nine boards and nine assists. Kalonda had seven boards.

Southeastern lost 55-45 to Barton County (Kan.) Community College and 49-46 to Midland (Texas) College in its other two games.

Shelton State	**89**
East Central	**75**

The Lady Warriors ran into a team that was definitely hot from the outside in Thursday's consolation game loss to Shelton.

The Lady Bucs were 13-of-26 from behind the 3-point arc with seven Shelton players making at least one trey .

Shelton led by as many as 22 points in the second half after taking a 42-36 lead into halftime.

In addition to outscoring EC 39-15 from 3-point range, Shelton's bench outscored EC's 37-6. The Lady Bucs also had a 43-30 rebounding advantage.

Rashima Jenkins was 9-of-12 from the floor in leading EC, 22-8, with 21 points. She also had six boards. Mystee Dale scored 19 points and had four rebounds. Tawayatha Evans scored 15 points and had seven rebounds and three assists. Tanesha Brown made 4-of-8 3-point attempts in tallying 14 points. Allison Phillips had six points and four boards. Chotsani Henderson had four rebounds and three steals.

Shelton State, 29-5, placed five scorers in double figures with Lauren Tucker going 4-for-7 from the 3-point line and 4-for-4 from the free throw line on the way to an 18-point performance.

Margaret Bell scored 15 points and had eight rebounds with Ayla Guzzardo, China Antoine, and Marquisha Loper scoring 10 points each. Guzzardo dished out nine assists and Darnisha Lyles hauled in nine rebounds. Bell claimed eight boards.

The Lady Bucs also went 20-for-25 to make 80 percent of their free throw attempts.

"A lot of our game is shooting," Shelton coach Madonna Thompson said. "We're just a lot smaller than people so we have to be able to shoot."

Shelton went on to defeat Trinity Valley (Texas) Community College 81-60 and Western Nebraska Community College 66-45 to place seventh in the 16-team tournament.

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL
SPIRIT OF MORTON

WEEK OF March 24

Juco all-star game set for Tuesday

The state's top community and junior college sophomore basketball players will be in action Tuesday, April 1, when the annual Mississippi Association of Community and Junior College All-Star Basketball Games are held at Choctaw Central High School in Choctaw.

Game times are 6 p.m. for the women's contest with men's competition scheduled to begin at 8 p.m. Admission is $5 per person.

Each squad includes 12 All-Stars selected by their respective coaches.

Representing the Region 23 champion East Central Community College Lady Warriors is Tanesha Brown.

Representing the ECCC men are Darron Maxtion and Marquis Wilson.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____	NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____	NEWTON RECORD _____
UNION APPEAL ✓	MERIDIAN STAR _____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____	CLARION-LEDGER ✓
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____	THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 4/7

THE MERIDIAN STAR
Tuesday, April 8, 2008

PICTURE THIS

SUBMITTED PHOTO

JUCO MVP

Meridian Community College's NaDosha Strickland, right, accepts the Most Valuable Player award from East Central Community College coach Bill Smith. Strickland, a Bay Springs native, scored 17 points in helping the South All-Stars to their recent 82-70 win over the North in the MACJC All-Star game at Choctaw Central.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____	NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____	NEWTON RECORD _____
UNION APPEAL _____	MERIDIAN STAR ✓
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____	CLARION-LEDGER _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____	THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF April 14, 2008

ECCC Lady Warrior 2008-2009 Basketball Signees

ECCC

East Central Community College welcomed new members of its women's basketball team during a scholarship signing ceremony held April 10 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus. Joining the Lady Warriors for 2008-09 are Danielle Cole, a 5-7 guard from Philadelphia High School; Hannah Lee, a 5-10 forward from Leake Academy; and Yolanda Jones, a 5-6 guard from Lake High School.

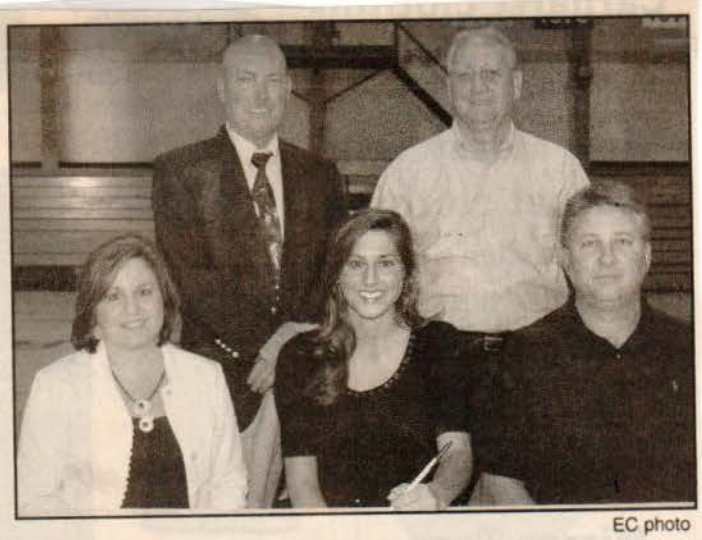
Standing from left are Bill Smith, ECCC women's head basketball coach; Lisa Hutchins, Cole's mother; Doyle Wolverton, Leake Academy girls' head basketball coach; Tammy and Jeff Lee of Philadelphia, Hannah's parents; and Victor Gilstrap, Lake Girls' head basketball coach. Seated from left Danielle Cole, a 5-7 guard from Philadelphia High School; Hannah Lee, a 5-10 forward from Leake Academy; and Yolanda Jones, a 5-6 guard from Lake High School

Cole, a three-time District Player of the Year and All-District selection, received honorable mention All-State honors and participated in Mississippi and Mississippi/Alabama All-Star Games. She made The Clarion-Ledger All-State Team and was an ECCC All-Tournament Team selection. Team awards received include best offensive player for three consecutive years and best rebounder for two seasons. Lee, a 5-10 forward, was named MPSA Girls' Player of the Year after helping lead the Rebelettes to the Academy AA championship and the semifinals of the Academy Overall Tournament. Leake finished with a 42-1 record. Lee, who averaged 13 points per game, is also a three-time All-State and All-District selection and won the team free-throw award for three consecutive seasons. Jones, a 5-6 guard, was named to the All-2A State Tournament and All-ECCC Tournament teams. She is also a three-time All-District selection and twice was named on the All-Scott County Team. In addition, she is a recipient of the Lady Hornets' most valuable player and best free throw shooter awards.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN		NESHOBA DEMOCRAT	
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES	X	NEWTON RECORD	X
UNION APPEAL	X	MERIDIAN STAR	X
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL		CLARION-LEDGER	
SPIRIT OF MORTON		THE PHILADELPHIAN	X

WEEK OF April 14, 2008



EC photo

Signs with ECCC

Hannah Lee (seated center), a former basketball standout at Leake Academy, is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue her basketball career at East Central Community College in Decatur. With the new Lady Warrior are (seated from left) her parents, Tammy and Jeff Lee of Philadelphia; and (standing from left) Bill Smith, ECCC women's head basketball coach, and Doyle Wolverton, Leake Academy girls' head basketball coach. Hannah is the granddaughter of Buddy and Ina Faye Lee of Forest.

EC photo

Signs with ECCC

Danielle Cole (seated), a former basketball standout at Philadelphia High School, is shown signing a national letter of intent to continue her career at East Central Community College in Decatur. Shown with the new Lady Warrior are (standing from left) her mother, Lisa Hutchins, and Bill Smith, ECCC women's head basketball coach.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN	X	NESHOBA DEMOCRAT	X
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES	✓	NEWTON RECORD	
UNION APPEAL		MERIDIAN STAR	
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL		CLARION-LEDGER	
SPIRIT OF MORTON		THE PHILADELPHIAN	

WEEK OF April 14, 2008

Tryouts for ECCC men's basketball squad set April 17

Tryouts for the 2008-09 men's basketball team at East Central Community College will be held Thursday, April 17, announced Maurice Bowie, head coach.

Workouts are scheduled between 6 and 8 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Gym on the Decatur campus.

For more information contact Coach Maurice Bowie, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 372. The email address is mbowie@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF May 5, 2008

ECCC PHOTO

NEW ECCC BASKETBALL WARRIORS: Former Newton High School basketball standouts Steve Edwards (seated left) and Jeremy "Chucky" Curry are shown signing national letters of intent with East Central Community College during a scholarship signing ceremony held April 10 in the Brackeen-Wood Gym on the Decatur campus. Edwards, a 6-1 shooting guard, averaged 16.6 points and four steals per contest while Curry, a 6-6 power forward, averaged 13.3 points and 10 rebounds. Both players received All-Region 5-2A and All-State 2-A recognition following the Tigers' state championship season. Newton finished season action with a 36-5 record. Pictured with the new Warriors are (standing from left) Crandal Porter, NHS head basketball coach; Edwards' parents, Steve and Julie Edwards; Curry's mother, Ann Curry; and Maurice Bowie, ECCC men's head basketball coach.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF May 19, 2008

ECCC PHOTO

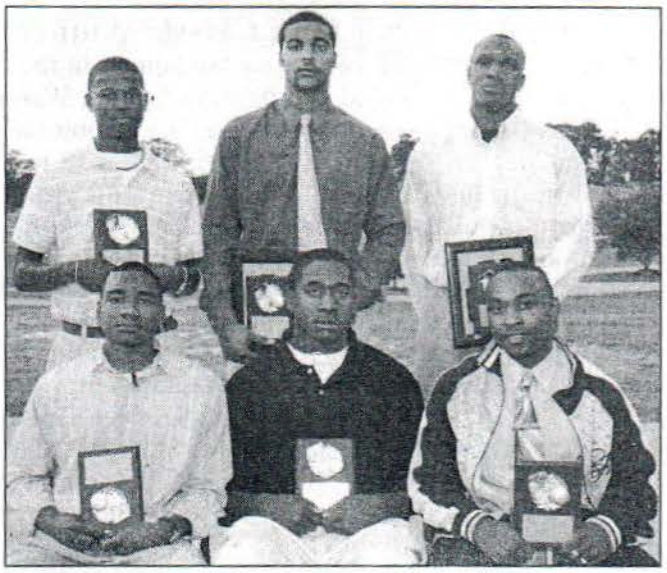
GRACE SIGNS WITH ECCC

Newton High School basketball standout Antonio Grace has signed a national letter-of-intent to continue his playing career at East Central Community College in Decatur. A 5-foot-9 point guard, Grace averaged 12 points and nine assists per game in leading the Tigers to a Class 2A state championship last season. He represented the Magnolia State squad in the annual Mississippi/Alabama All-Star Classic . Pictured above, from left are: grandmother Laverne Perry and mother Toneka Sims, both of Meridian; Antonio Grace and ECCC head coach Maurice Bowie. Grace is also the son of Anthony Sims of Meridian.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____	NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____	NEWTON RECORD _____
UNION APPEAL _____	MERIDIAN STAR X
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____	CLARION-LEDGER _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____	THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF June 16, 2008



ECCC Men's Basketball Award Winners

Members of the East Central Community College men's basketball team who received honors at the annual Spring Sports Awards Program held on the Decatur campus are (seated from left) Karl Robinson of Jackson, Scholar Athlete; Josh Luckett of Carthage, Most Valuable Offensive Player; and Rod Lofton of Forest, Most Valuable Defensive Player. Standing are Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Hickory, Most Improved Player; Mark Wilson of Delhi, La., Hustle Award; and Darron Maxtion of Ardmore, Ala., Warrior Award. The presentations were made by ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and Warrior head coach Maurice Bowie. The Warriors compiled an 11-14 record.

ECCC photo

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

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WEEK OF

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THE PHILADELPHIAN

EC takes two at Enterprise; swept by ICC

from school reports

East Central Community College's Lady Warriors and Warriors began the Thanksgiving holidays by sweeping home-standing Enterprise-Ozark on Nov. 22 and falling to host Itawamba Community College on Nov. 24.

Mystee Dale had 21 points as East Central rolled to a 75-50 thumping of Enterprise-Ozark Community College, located in Enterprise, Ala. Dale, a 5-foot-8 guard, is a former standout at Choctaw Central High School.

Other EC point makers included Leake Academy product Hannah Lee of Philadelphia with 19 points, Rashima Jenkins with 11, Danielle Cole of Philadelphia with eight, Allison Phillips of Leake Academy with six and Yolanda Jones of Lake with five.

EC held a 40-26 advantage at halftime.

ECCC men	**81**
Enterprise-Ozard	**70**

In the men's contest, sophomore Josh Luckett poured in 26 points as the Warriors rallied for an 11-point win. Luckett is a 6-foot-5 guard/forward from Carthage.

Also scoring were Rico Jones of Forest with 12, Jacob Jordan with 10, Andre' Pitchford and Kenny Thomas with nine each, Antonio Grace of Newton with five, and Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Newton County and James Starks of Meridian with four each.

EC trailed 46-37 at the break, but posted a 44-24 advantage over the final 20 minutes.

Itawamba	**86**
ECCC women	**69**

Against Itawamba in Fulton, the Lady Warriors were outscored by 17 points.

Rashima Jenkins led the EC women with 22 points. Mystee Dale tossed in 19, Allison Phillips scored 12, and Hannah Lee added 11.

The Lady Warriors, 6-3, trailed 36-33 at halftime.

Itawamba	**75**
ECCC men	**68**

The Indians, led by former ECCC head coach Marty Cooper, took the Warriors by seven points at Fulton.

Andre' Pitchford was the top scorer for the Warriors, 4-5, with 1[illegible] points. Jacob Jordan and ??? Lofton both scored 11, Jacob Martin had seven, Antonio Grace and Josh Luckett both scored six, and Devarus "Scooter" Walker scored five.

EC trailed 34-25 at the break.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors return to action Thursday at Decatur in a rematch with Northeast Mississippi Community College. Women's action begins at 6 p.m. followed by the men's contest at 8 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

ECCC squads end 2008 competition and begin MACJC South Division action by traveling to Copiah-Lincoln Community College on Monday, Dec. 8.

WEEK OF JULY 14, 2008

ECCC's Brown to continue basketball career

Tenesha Brown, a two-year basketball standout at East Central Community College in Decatur, has signed a national letter of intent to continue her athletic career at Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge, La., announced Bill Smith, ECCC women's head basketball coach.

Brown, a 5-6 guard and Jackson Provine graduate, averaged 17.2 points, 3.1 assists and 3.2 rebounds in helping lead the Lady Warriors to the Region 23 Tournament and a berth in the NJCAA Women's National Basketball Championship in Salina, Kansas. East Central completed the 2008 season with a 22-8 record.

In recognition of her outstanding season, Brown received third team All-American, All-Region 23 and All-State honors. She was also named the Lady Warriors most valuable offensively player.

Southern University is a member of the Southwestern Athletic Conference.

LAKE MESSENGER

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

UNION APPEAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON

IMPACT

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

WEEK OF August 25, 2009

East Central hires assistant men's basketball coach

Cornelius Gilleylen was recently selected assistant men's basketball coach at East Central Community College, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Prior to joining Maurice Bowie's staff, Gilleylen served in 2007-08 as an assistant men's basketball coach at St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas. He also has experience working basketball camps at St. Edward's and at ECCC.

Gilleylen, an Amory native, is a former standout at St. Edwards under head coach Ryan Marks, where he helped lead the Hilltoppers to consecutive Heartland Conference Championships and back-to-back appearances in the NCAA Tournament for the first time in school history.

Gilleylen

The shooting guard served as team captain in 2006-07 and received "Defensive Player of the Year" honors for the 2005-06 and 2006-07 seasons. He finished 14th in the nation in steals in 2006-07 and led the Hilltoppers in free throws at 94 percent. Gilleylen completed his career by finishing second in school history in steals.

He also had a stellar career at Itawamba Community College in Fulton, under former ECCC head coach Marty Cooper. Gilleylen, who played point guard, served as team captain and received the Indian Award in 2004-05. He received the "Defensive Player of the Year" award for the 2003-04 and 2004-05 seasons.

Prior to beginning his college careers, Gilleylen was an All-Conference and All-Division performer at Amory High School, where he also served as team captain and received the best defensive player award.

Gilleylen received a bachelor's degree in kinesiology from St. Edward's University in 2007 and earned an associate's degree from ICC in 2005.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ____
UNION APPEAL ____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ____
SPIRIT OF MORTON ____
DEMOCRAT ____
RECORD ____
STAR ____
CLARION-LEDGER ____
THE PHILADELPHIAN ____

WEEK OF 10·6·08

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ECCC LADY WARRIORS RECEIVE REGION 23 CHAMPIONSHIP RINGS! Members of the 2007-08 East Central Community College women's basketball team receive their Region 23 Championship rings during halftime ceremonies of the East Central/Holmes football game Saturday, Sept. 6 on the Decatur campus. ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and Lady Warrior head coach Bill Smith made the presentation to team members (from left) Carlena Clemons, Union; Sha Coleman, Newton County; Mystee Dale, Choctaw Central; Tawayatha Evans, Newton; Queena Gage, Scott Central; Chotsani Henderson, Newton; Courtney James, Magee; Rashima Jenkins, Airline High School, Bossier City, La.; Michaela Lee, Nanih Waiya; Alisha McAfee, Northwest Rankin; Courtney Miller, Louisville; Jaleesa Sanders, South Leake; Allison Phillips, Leake Academy; and Katherine Taylor, Carthage. Not pictured are team members Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine, Jordan Patterson of Oak Hill Academy and Nicole Williams of Newton, and assistant coach Blessing Chekwa. After winning the Region 23 title, the Lady Warriors advanced to the NJCAA Division 1 Women's Basketball Tournament in Salina, Kansas, and finished with a 22-8 record.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 10.2.08

'Haunted House of Hoops' features first look at ECCC basketball next Wednesday

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES
sports@sctonline.net

DECATUR—A first look at East Central Community College's basketball talent for the 2008-09 campaign will be available Wednesday, Oct. 29 when the annual "Haunted House of Hoops" gets underway at 8 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Brief scrimmages are planned by the Lady Warriors and Warriors who will also be introduced by their respective head coaches, Bill Smith and Maurice Bowie. The ECCC women are the defending Region 23 champions.

Also scheduled are a women's three-point shooting contest and a slam-dunk competition featuring Warrior team members.

A three-point shooting competition is also planned between Lady Warrior softball head coach Scott Hill and his assistant, former ECCC All-American basketball and softball player, Kristin Chaney. Chaney also assists the women's basketball team.

In addition, one lucky ECCC student will be selected to try his or her skills at three-point range with free tuition- valued at $700 - on the line.

The Centralettes, the dance line for the Wall O' Sound Marching Band; the Wall O' Sound Drum Line; and cheerleading squad will also perform.

"Trick or treat" candy will be available for youngsters wanting to get an early start on Halloween activities. A Halloween costume contest is scheduled for ECCC students and staff members.

Refreshments will be furnished by Valley Food Services, Inc., event sponsor.

Door prizes will also be provided.

There is no charge for admission and the public is invited to attend.

For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The e-mail address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓
UNION APPEAL ✓
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
NEWTON RECORD _____
MERIDIAN STAR _____
CLARION-LEDGER _____
THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

ECCC basketball season tips off Saturday

from school reports

East Central Community College's Lady Warriors are hoping for another championship campaign and the Warriors are also preparing for success as both squads near completion of pre-season workouts in preparation for the 2008-09 basketball season.

Both teams begin competition Saturday at Delgado Community College in New Orleans. The women's game is set for 2 p.m. followed by the men's contest at 4 p.m. The Lady Warriors and Warriors host Holmes Community College Monday and entertain rival East Mississippi Community College Thursday, Nov. 6. Game times are 6 and 8 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Lady Warrior head coach Bill Smith, whose 2007-08 squad captured the Region 23 title and finished 22-8, said he is looking forward to starting the season but knows repeating as champions will be a challenge.

"We will be the target of most everyone we play because we are the defending region champs," said Smith, who begins his fourth season at the Lady Warrior helm. "But I hope we will not feel any added pressure in trying to defend the title. Our sophomores are really focused on a repeat."

The top returnees are Rashima Jenkins and Mystee Dale, the only returning starters. Jenkins, a 5-foot-9 forward from Airline High School in Bossier City, La., averaged 16.5 points and 7.1 rebounds, and Dale, a 5-foot-8 guard from Choctaw Central, had 14.6 points and 5.8 rebounds per contest.

Allison Phillips, a 5-foot-8 forward from Leake Academy and Alisha McAfee, a 5-foot-5 guard from Northwest Rankin also saw a lot of playing time last year. Other sophomores are Katherine Taylor, a 5-foot-10 forward from Carthage and Sha Coleman, a 5-foot-6 guard from Newton County.

When asked what he liked best about his sophomores, Smith replied, "They have a (championship) ring!" He said the sophomores also understand "what it feels like to win a region title... and hopefully they can help the freshmen understand what it will take to repeat."

Seven freshmen are included on this year's team, including guards Deshouri Spates (5-4) of St. Thomas More High School in Lafayette, La., Yolanda Jones (5-3) of Lake, Lanie Triplett (5-4) of Scott Central, Sierra Croft (5-4) of Newton County, and Alisha Griffin (5-6) of Kemper County, and forwards Danielle Cole (5-8) of Philadelphia and Hannah Lee (5-11) of Leake Academy.

"We will need the freshmen to really step up and help us this season," Smith said. "But I know it will take a little time for them to get adjusted to the college level of competition."

Smith said the freshmen and sophomores are playing well as a unit.

"They seem to get along well as a group and the team chemistry is very good," Smith said. "We will need for that chemistry to continue all year for us to be successful."

Smith said fans can expect to see "13 young ladies hustle and play hard every minute of every game" this season.

Serving her first year as Smith's assistant is former Lady Warrior standout Kristin Chaney of Decatur. Chaney received All-American, All-Region 23, All-Region 23 Tournament, All-State, and All-Star honors at East Central, where she helped lead the 2003-04 Lady Warriors to region and state titles and a second-place finish in the Consolation Bracket of the NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship in Salina, Kan. The ECCC women, coached by Brad Hodge, completed season action with a 31-4 record and were ranked eighth in the final NJCAA poll. She continued her success on the basketball court at the University of Southern Mississippi.

On the men's side, third-year head coach Maurice put the team together, I gave us depth at every position and with depth brings about competition, and that's what makes you a great team — getting after one another in practice every day."

Overall, Bowie said this year's team "is a good group of kids to be around. They have really worked hard both on and off the court. We have challenged them this year to be take pride in everything they do, not just in basketball."

Bowie said he is especially pleased with his guards and how much control they bring to the game in their role as "field generals."

"I am really high on Rod Lofton (6-1 guard) of Forest. He takes it personal every time he's on the court to guard the best offensive player on the other team," Bowie said.

Bowie said Rico Jones, a 6-foot-3 guard also from Forest, has been "Mr. Consistent" on and off the court and "is really going to help us down the road when we need that sophomore leadership to show up."

Bowie also had praise for his top returning scorers from last year, Josh Luckett, a 6-5 guard/forward from Carthage, and Devarus "Scooter" Walker, a 6-foot-1 guard from Newton County High School.

"Luckett led the guys in scoring with 13 points per game and made 59 percent of his shots," Bowie said. "Walker was second in scoring with 12 points per game. He also shot 39 percent from the three-point line."

Forwards James Starks (6-6) of Meridian, Joseph Thompson (6-7) of Morton, and Jacob Jordan (6-6) of Opelousas, La., complete the sophomore class and are also expected to make a difference this season.

Freshmen include guards Asmar Capers (6-3) of Bridgewater-Raritan, N.J., Antonio Grace (5-9) of Newton, Andre Pitchford (6-2) and Kenny Thomas (6-4), both of Jackson Provine, Steve Edwards (6-1) of Newton, and Jacob Martin (6-5) of Lafayette, La., and forward Chucky Curry (6-7) of Newton.

Bowie said his goals for the season "are to graduate my kids, develop young men into men, and win at least 90 percent of our games. We also want our guys to act like, practice like and play like champions."

Cornelius Gilleylen is serving his first year as Bowie's assistant. An Amory native, Gilleylen is a former assistant men's basketball coach at St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas, where he had a stellar career.

He twice received "Defensive Player of the Year" honors and was ranked 14th in the nation in steals in 2006-07. He was also twice named "Defensive Player of the Year" at Itawamba Community College, where he played for former ECCC head coach Marty Cooper.

Bowie expects his Warriors to improve on last year's 11-13 record. He has good reason to be optimistic.

"It's not often that you sign every kid you recruit, but we are truly fortunate to have done so this year," said Bowie, a former ECCC basketball standout. "When I

SPIRIT OF MORTON

WEEK OF 11-3-08

ECCC PHOTO

Warrior Chucky Curry of Newton battles a Holmes Community College player for possession during East Central's 63-52 win over the visiting Bulldogs Monday night. East Central remained unbeaten at 2-0 following the non-division battle.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

ECCC squads sweep Holmes; Both squads improve to 2-0

East Central Community College took a pair of contests from visiting Holmes Community College Monday night, as the Lady Warriors cruised to an easy 95-77 thumping of the Lady Bulldogs and the Warriors held on for a 63-52 decision over the Holmes men.

Mystee Dale, a sophomore from Choctaw Central, poured in 18 points to lead the defending Region 23 champs, who improved to 2-0 under fourth-year head coach Bill Smith.

Also scoring were Rashima Jenkins, of Arline High School in Bossier City, La., 16; Alisha McAfee of Northwest Rankin, 12; DeShouri Spates of St. Thomas More HS, Lafayette, La., 11; Yolanda Jones of Lake, 10; Allison Phillips of Leake Academy, eight; Danielle Cole of Philadephia, seven; Katherine Taylor of Carthage, five; and Sha Coleman of Newton County, Lanie Triplett of Scott Central, Hannah Lee of Leake Academy and Alisha Griffin of Kemper County, two each.

Tiffaney Haynes of Sallis had 28 points – include eight treys- to lead the Lady Bulldogs in their season opener.

The Lady Warriors held a 46-30 advantage at the break.

In the men's contest, sophomore Rod Lofton of Forest pumped in 16 points to lead the Warriors, who are off to a 2-0 start under third-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

Other point makers were Andre' Pitchford of Jackson Provine, 14; Antonio Grace of Newton, eight; James Starks of Meridian, six; Jacob Jordan of Opelousas, La., five; Rico Jones and Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Newton County, four each; and Asmar Capers, a product of Bridgewater-Raritan High School in Port Murray, N.J., Kenny Thomas of Jackson Provine and Chucky Curry of Newton, two each.

Jeremy Lightfoot of Decatur, Ga., scored 20 points to lead Holmes in their season opener.

EC led 33-22 at halftime.

East Central squads began the 2008-09 campaign by sweeping Delgado Community College Saturday afternoon in New Orleans.

The Lady Warriors turned a four-point halftime deficit into a 68-59 victory, while the Warriors also rallied for an 85-72 win.

Dale and Jenkins led the East Central women with 27 and 14 points, respectively.

Luckett paced the Warriors with 19 points and Jordan added 15.

EC squads will continue non-division action by hosting East Mississippi Community College Thursday night. The women's game begins at 6 p.m. followed by the men's contest at 8 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. The Lady Warriors and Warriors travel to Bevill State in Fayette, Ala., Monday night.

WEEK OF 11-3-08

Junior College Basketball

ECCC opens campaign with sweep over Delgado

from staff reports

The East Central Community College basketball teams each picked up wins over Delgado Community College Saturday afternoon.

The Lady Warriors (1-0) turned a four-point halftime deficit into a 68-59 win, while the men also trailed at the intermission before winning 85-72.

Former Choctaw Central standout Mystee Dale paced EC with 27. Rashima Jenkins scored 14 for the Lady Warriors.

The ECCC men (1-0) were led by Josh Luckett's 19, while Jacob Jordan scored 15.

Both teams will be back in action Monday when Holmes Community College travels to Decatur.

— *Chris Brennaman*

Meridian women	**72**
Wallace-Selma	**61**

The Meridian Community College women started the 2008-09 campaign with a road victory.

The Lady Eagles held a seven-point lead at the break and extended it to an 11-point final.

Former Meridian High star Tiara Parker scored 29 points, including three from beyond the arc, to lead MCC.

Philadelphia's Natonya McWilliams had a double-double with 12 points and 11 rebounds. LaQuita Burrough pumped in 13 and pulled down 11 boards.

MCC (1-0) is back in action today at Andrew College.

— *Chris Brennaman*

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 11-3-08

East Central

From Page B4

Central, Sierra Croft (5-4) of Newton County and Alisha Griffin (5-6) of Kemper County. The freshmen forwards are Danielle Cole (5-8) of Philadelphia and Hannah Lee (5-11) of Leake Academy.

"We will need the freshmen to really step up and help us this season," Smith said. "But I know it will take a little time for them to get adjusted to the college level of competition."

Smith said the freshmen and sophomores are playing well as a unit.

"They seem to get along well as a group and the team chemistry is very good," Smith said.

"We will need for that chemistry to continue all year for us to be successful."

Smith said fans can expect to see "13 young ladies hustle and play hard every minute of every game" this season.

Serving her first year as Smith's assistant is former Lady Warrior standout Kristin Chaney of Decatur. Chaney received All-American, All-Region 23, All-Region 23 Tournament, All-State and All-Star honors at East Central, where she helped lead the 2003-04 Lady Warriors to region and state titles and a second-place finish in the Consolation Bracket of the NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship in Salina, Kan.

She continued her success on the basketball court at the University of Southern Mississippi, where she also received numerous honors.

On the men's side, third-year head coach Maurice Bowie expects his Warriors to improve on last year's 11-13 record. He has good reason to be optimistic.

"It's not often that you sign every kid you recruit, but we are truly fortunate to have done so this year," said Bowie, a former ECCC basketball standout. "When I put the team together, I gave us depth at every position and with depth brings about competition, and that's what makes you a great team – getting after one another in practice every day."

Overall, Bowie said this year's team "is a good group of kids to be around. They have really worked hard both on and off the court. We have challenged them this year to be take pride in everything they do, not just in basketball."

Bowie said he is especially pleased with his guards and how much control they bring to the game in their role as "field generals."

"I am really high on Rod Lofton (6-1 guard) of Forest. He takes it personal every time he's on the court to guard the best offensive player on the other team," Bowie said.

Bowie said Rico Jones, a 6-3 guard also from Forest, has been "Mr. Consistent" on and off the court and "is really going to help us down the road when we need that sophomore leadership to show up."

Bowie also had praise for his top returning scorers from last year, Josh Luckett, a 6-5 guard/forward and Devarus "Scooter" Walker, a 6-1 guard from Newton County High School.

"Luckett led the guys in scoring with 13 points per game and made 59 percent of his shots," Bowie said. "Walker was second in scoring with 12 points per game. He also shot 39 percent from the three-point line."

Forwards James Starks (6-6) of Meridian, Joseph Thompson (6-7) and Jacob Jordan (6-6) complete the sophomore class and are also expected to make a difference this season.

Freshmen include guards Asmar Capers (6-3), Antonio Grace (5-9) of Newton, Andre Pitchford (6-2), Kenny Thomas (6-4), Steve Edwards (6-1) of Newton and Jacob Martin (6-5), and forward Chucky Curry (6-7) of Newton.

Bowie said his goals for the season "are to graduate my kids, develop young men into men, and win at least 90 percent of our games. We also want our guys to act like, practice like and play like champions."

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He twice received "Defensive Player of the Year" honors and was ranked 14th in the nation in steals in 2006-07.

He was also twice named "Defensive Player of the Year" at Itawamba Community College, where he played for former ECCC head coach Marty Cooper.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

East Central women look for more hardware, Warriors hoping for improvement

from school reports

DECATUR — East Central Community College's Lady Warriors are hoping for another championship campaign and the Warriors are also preparing for success as the 2008-09 basketball season is underway.

The two teams earned sweeps over Delgado Community College in New Orleans and Holms Community College to start 2-0. ECCC will entertain rival East Mississippi tonight. Game times are 6 and 8 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Lady Warrior head coach Bill Smith, whose 2007-08 squad captured the Region 23 title and finished 22-8, said he is looking forward to starting the season but knows repeating as champions will be a challenge.

"We will be the target of most everyone we play because we are the defending region champs," said Smith, who begins his fourth season at the Lady Warrior helm. "But I hope we will not feel any added pressure in trying to defend the title. Our sophomores are really focused on a repeat."

The top returnees are Rashima Jenkins and Mystee Dale, the only returning starters.

Jenkins, a 5-9 forward, averaged 16.5 points and 7.1 rebounds, and Dale, a 5-8 guard from Choctaw Central, had 14.6 points and 5.8 rebounds per contest.

Allison Phillips, a 5-8 forward from Leake Academy and Alisha McAfee, a 5-5 guard also saw a lot of playing time last year. Other sophomores are Katherine Taylor and Sha Coleman, a 5-6 guard from Newton County.

When asked what he liked best about his sophomores, Smith replied, "They have a (championship) ring!" He said the sophomores also understand "what it feels like to win a region title... and hopefully they can help the freshmen understand what it will take to repeat."

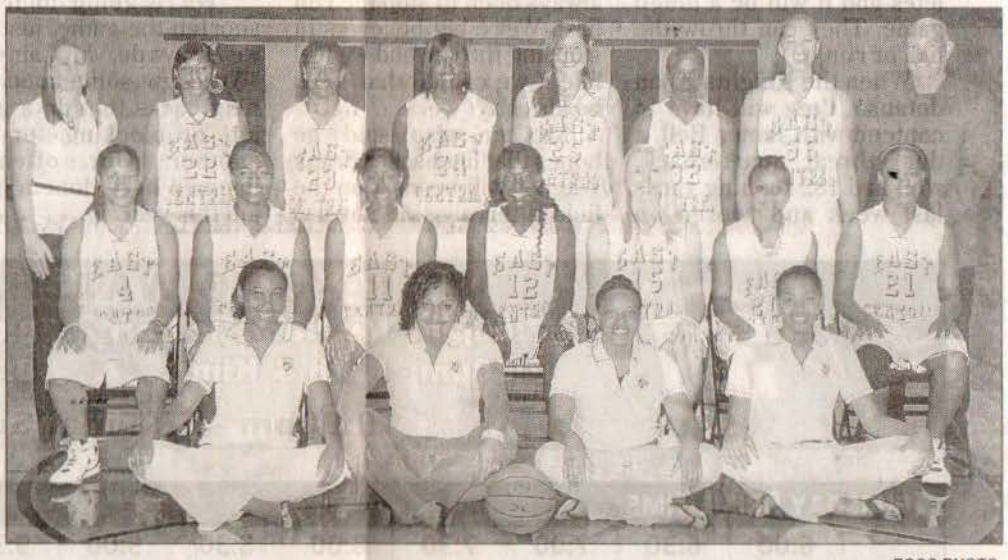
Seven freshmen are on this year's team, including guards Deshouri Spates, Yolanda Jones of Lake, Lanie Triplett (5-4) of Scott

See **East Central**
Page B5

ECCC PHOTO

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE WARRIORS

Seated from left are Devarus "Scooter" Walker, Newton County; Asmar Capers, Bridgewater-Raritan, N.J.; Rico Jones, Forest; Antonio Grace, Newton; James Starks, Meridian; Jacob Jordan, Opelousas, La.; Rod Lofton, Forest; and Josh Luckett, Carthage. Standing from left are Cornelius Gilleylen, assistant coach; Darius Walker, student assistant, Newton County; Andre Pitchford, Provine; Kenny Thomas, Provine; Joseph Thompson, Morton; Steve Edwards, Newton; Chucky Curry, Newton; and Maurice Bowie, head coach. Not pictured are Jacob Martin, Lafayette, La., and student assistant William Flowers of Newton.



ECCC PHOTO

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE LADY WARRIORS

First row, from left, are student assistants Kanisha Warnsley, Newton County; Courtney James, Magee; Precious Triplett, Louisville; and Michaela Lee, Nanih Waiya. Second row, from left, are Deshouri Spates, Lafayette, La.; Yolanda Jones, Lake; Sha Coleman, Newton County; Rashima Jenkins, Bossier City, La; Allison Phillips, Leake Academy; Lanie Triplett, Scott Central; and Mystee Dale, Choctaw Central. Standing from left are Kristin Chaney, assistant coach; Sierra Croft, Newton County; Alisha McAfee, Northwest Rankin; Danielle Cole, Philadelphia; Hannah Lee, Leake Academy; Alisha Griffin, Kemper County; Katherine Taylor, Carthage; and Bill Smith, head coach. Not pictured are student assistant William Flowers of Newton and statistician Candy Wade of Raleigh.

WEEK OF 11-10-08

Luckett leads EC past rival Scooba

Sophomore guard Josh Luckett of Carthage pumped in 29 points and led the undefeated East Central Community College Warriors to a 73-63 decision over longtime rival East Mississippi Community College Thursday night in the Brackeen-Wood gym on the Decatur campus.

East Central, now 3-0 on the young season, received well-deserved praise following the non-division battle from third-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

Bowie

"I thought our guys did a good job of protecting our home court and record," Bowie said of his Warriors, who further explained how the Warriors' undefeated record will be target for the opposition: "It's easy being the underdog because you pick who to gun for. But when you are one of two unbeaten teams in the state, then you have to be on guard every night you step onto the court."

In addition to Luckett, other Warrior point makers were Kenny Thomas of Jackson Provine, 10; Rod Lofton of Forest, nine; Antonio Grace of Newton, eight; Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Newton County, James Starks of Meridian and Andre' Pitchford of Jackson Provine, four each; Jacob Jordan of Opelousas, La., three; and Rico Jones of Forest, two.

Darian Donald of Columbus poured in 19 points for the Lions, who fell to 0-2.

East Central held a 30-25 advantage at halftime.

In the women's contest, Mystee Dale's jumper at the buzzer to tie the contest fell off the mark and the defending Region 23 champion Lady Warriors were handed their first loss on the young season, a 62-60 setback to the Lady Lions.

Dale, who led EC with 22 points, drilled a three-pointer which trimmed the East Mississippi lead to 61-60 with six seconds left, but the Lady Warriors could get no closer in the hard-fought battle.

Head coach Bill Smith, whose Lady Warriors fell to 2-1 on the young campaign, said the Lady Lions' success in rebounding was the deciding factor in the non-division matchup.

"They killed us on the offensive boards. That was the difference in the ball game," Smith said following the tough loss. "We knew coming in that they were going to be pretty athletic on the boards. We just didn't do a good job of keeping them off. We gave them way too many second-chance baskets."

In addition to Dale, a former Choctaw Central High School standout, other EC scorers were Rashima Jenkins, a product of Airline High School in Bossier City, La., 10; Hannah Lee of Leake Academy, nine; DeShouri Spates of St. Thomas More High School in Lafayette, La., and Alisha McAfee of Northwest Rankin, eight

ECCC

From Page 1B

each; and Danielle Cole of Philadelphia, three.

Martkia Hall of Southeast Lauderdale had 19 points to lead the Lady Lions, who improved to 2-0. EC held a slim 30-29 lead at the break.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors will be on the road for the remaining games in November, beginning Monday, Nov. 10 as they take on Bevill State in Fayette, Ala. EC battles Holmes on Nov. 13; East Miss., Nov. 17; Northeast, Nov. 20; Enterprise (Ala.), Nov. 22; and Itawamba, Nov. 24.

EC squads host Northeast Thursday, Dec. 4. The women's game begins at 6 p.m. followed by the men's contest at 8 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

APPEAL

CARTHAGE DEMOCRAT

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

NEWTON RECORD ✓

UNION APPEAL

MERIDIAN STAR

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

CLARION-LEDGER

SPIRIT OF MORTON

THE PHILADELPHIAN

WEEK OF 11-17-08

Dale's 27 lifts ECCC past EMCC

Sophomore guard Mystee Dale pumped in a game-high 27 points and led the East Central Community College Lady Warriors to a 56-45 win over longtime rival East Mississippi Community College Monday night at Keyes T. Currie Coliseum on the Scooba campus.

"She played really well tonight," ECCC coach Bill Smith said of the Choctaw Central product following the non-division matchup.

The fourth-year head mentor was equally as proud of the entire squad, which avenged an earlier 62-60 setback in Decatur.

"This was the best team effort we've had all season," he stated. "This was a big win for us over a very good team."

With the victory, East Central improved to 4-2 on the young season, while the Lady Lions dropped from the unbeaten ranks and fell to 4-1.

In men's action, the Warriors were unable to sweep the season series and were outscored 86-55 by the host Lions.

East Central, which posted a 73-63 decision over the Lions earlier in Decatur, were led by sophomore forward James Starks of Meridian, who had 13 points and 12 rebounds.

The Warriors evened their record at 3-3 following the non-division battle while East Mississippi improved to 2-3.

Next up for East Central squads are road games at Northeast Mississippi Community College in Booneville on Thursday, Nov. 20; Enterprise-Ozark Community College in Enterprise, Ala., on Saturday, Nov. 22; and Itawamba Community College in Fulton on Monday, Nov. 24.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors resume play following the Thanksgiving holidays by hosting Northeast on Thursday, Dec 4. Game times are 6 and 8 p.m.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 11-17 08

Juco Basketball: East Central at East Mississippi

PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

THE WEAVE

Mystee Dale, center, of East Central Community College, dribbles out of trouble by going between East Mississippi Community College defenders Angelique Burtts, left, and Javitia Eades, right, during Monday night action at Keyes T. Currie Coliseum in Scooba. Dale, a former Choctaw Central High School standout, poured in a game-high 27 points to help the Lady Warriors post a 56-45 victory over the host Lady Lions. The win avenged ECCC's only loss thus far this season, while East Mississippi also suffered its first loss of the new 2008-09 campaign.

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

EC's Dale steals spotlight

Lady Warriors, Lions each gain revenge for earlier losses

By Chris Brennaman
assistant sports editor

SCOOBA — On the night that East Mississippi Community College freshman Martika Hull received the state championship ring she won at Southeast Lauderdale last season, it was one of her former high school rivals that stole the show.

Mystee Dale, who won a pair of state championships at Choctaw Central including an 11-point win over Southeast in the 2005 title game, scored a game-high 27 points in East Central Community College's 56-45 win over Scooba Tech.

"She played really well tonight," ECCC coach Billy Smith said of Dale. "This was the best team effort we've had all year. This was a big win for us over a very good team."

The Lady Warriors (4-2) handed EMCC its first loss of the year and avenged an earlier blemish in the process. The Lady Lions took a 62-60 decision on Nov. 6 in Decatur.

Dale scored 22 points in that game to lead all scorers but missed a shot at the buzzer that would have tied it.

"Mystee Dale took the game over tonight," said EMCC coach Sharon Thompson. "She scored almost half of their points."

The Lady Lions, which entered the game with a perfect 4-0 record and averaging 69 points per game, did not get the usual output from their two leading scorers. Angelique Burtts (15.5 points per game) and Hull (14.3) were held to five and zero points, respectively.

"We just didn't play good," Thompson said. "To hold a team to 56 points is not bad, but we've got to be able to score more than 45.

"We had looks just couldn't knock them down."

Midway through the first half, East Central — using a 15-3 run — built a lead that wouldn't get any smaller than seven.

"We came out and hit our first three or four shots in a row and controlled the tempo of the game in the first half," Smith said.

Jasmine Abrams scored 11 of East Mississippi's last 12 points of the first half, but by the time the teams went to the locker room, the Lady Warriors led by a dozen. Dale scored 19 of the team's 29 first-half points and recorded assists on two other baskets.

A 3-pointer by Dale 24 seconds into the second half began a run by the Lady Warriors to extend the lead to 19, their largest of the game.

See **Split**
Page B3

Split

From Page B1

East Mississippi men	**86**
East Central	**55**

Scooba Tech earned the season split with East Central, taking a 31-point win here Monday.

The Lions, who never trailed in the game, led by as many as 34 in the second half and cruised to their second victory of the year.

Coco Ware — coming off a season-high 29 points last Thursday against Pearl River Community College — scored 24 to pace the Lions. He also pulled down seven rebounds.

EMCC went on a 12-0 run to start the second half, breaking open a game the Lions already led by 17.

Woodie Howard scored 17 points to join Ware in double figures. The Lions also had double-digit nights from Darian Donald (13) and Johnathan Harris (10).

The Warriors (3-3) were led by former Meridian Wildcat James Starks, who had a double-double with 13 points and a dozen boards.

The EMCC squads will be back in action Thursday at Copiah-Lincoln, while East Central will travel to Booneville the same night.

WEEK OF 11-17-08

Dale's 27 Points Lifts ECCC LadyWarriors Past EMCC; Warriors Fall

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

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WEEK OF 11-24-08

The Union Appeal • Union, Mississippi • Wednesday, Nove

EC women get win at Northeast

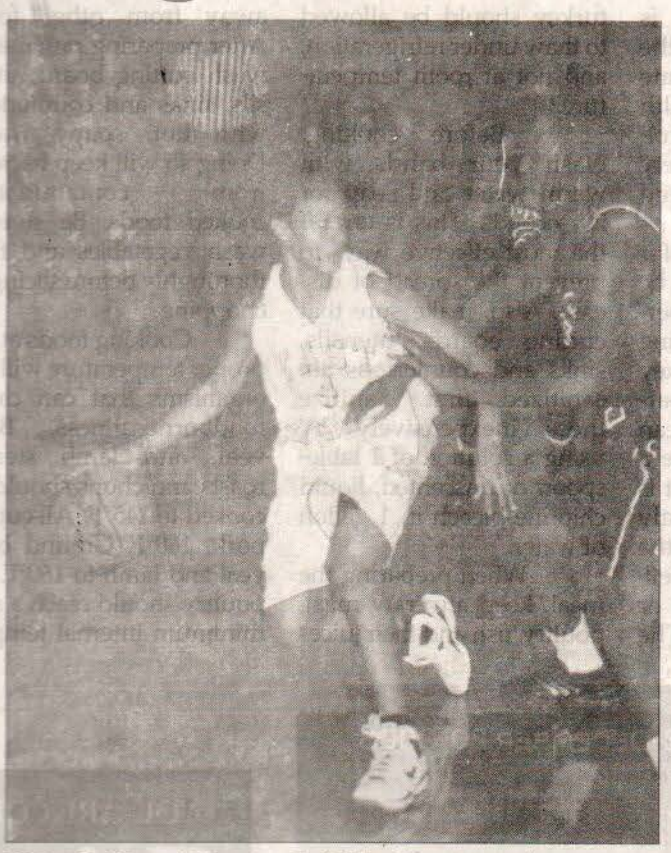
from school reports

Sophomores Mystee Dale and Rashima Jenkins combined for 66 points in leading the East Central Community College Lady Warriors to their third-straight victory, a 97-85 thumping of Northeast Mississippi Community College Thursday night in Booneville.

The Warriors were not as fortunate, dropping their fourth-straight contest in a 74-71 squeaker to the host Tigers. Freshman guard Andre' Pitchford of Jackson Provine barely missed a three-point shot at the buzzer that would have sent the non-division matchup into overtime.

Dale, a 5-foot-8 guard, pumped in a career-high 39 points and added 12 assists and 11 rebounds as East Central improved to 5-2 under fourth-year head coach Bill Smith.

Jenkins, a 5-foot-9 forward, poured in 27 points and grabbed 15 rebounds.



EC's DeShouri Spates dribbles in a recent game.
Photo by Marty Stamper

Also scoring for the Lady Warriors were Hannah Lee with 16 points, Danielle Cole with five, and Alisha McAfee and Allison Phillips with four each.

Bionca Hill had 22 points to lead Northeast, 4-2.

East Central held a 46-41 advantage at halftime.

Northeast men	**74**
East Central	**71**

Josh Luckett, a 6-foot-5 sophomore guard/forward, had 16 points to lead the Warriors, who dropped to 3-4 under third-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

Other EC scorers were Steve Edwards with 10, Pitchford with nine, Antonio Grace with eight, James Starks with six, Rico Jones with five, and Jacob Jordan and Chucky Curry with four each.

William Burdette tallied 17 points for Northeast, which improved to 6-2.

East Central trailed 39-33 at the break.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors completed their six-game road at Itawamba Community College Monday.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

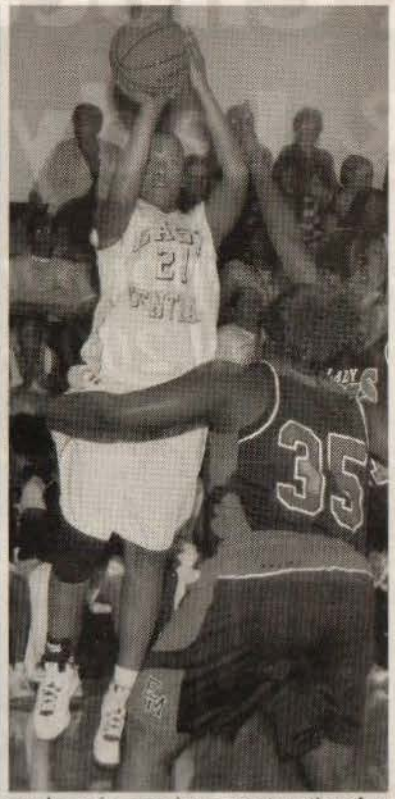
ECCC basketball teams look for winning seasons

East Central Community College's Lady Warriors are hoping for another championship campaign and the Warriors are also preparing for success as both squads near completion of pre-season workouts in preparation for the 2008-09 basketball season.

Lady Warrior head coach Bill Smith, whose 2007-08 squad captured the Region 23 title and finished 22-8, said he is looking forward to starting the season but knows repeating as champions will be a challenge.

"We will be the target of most everyone we play because we are the defending region champs," said Smith, who begins his fourth season at the Lady Warrior helm. "But I hope we will not feel any added pressure in trying to defend the title. Our sophomores are really focused on a repeat."

The top returnees are Rashima Jenkins and Mystee Dale, the only returning starters. Jenkins, a 5-9 forward from Airline High School in Bossier City, La., averaged 16.5 points and 7.1 rebounds, and Dale, a 5-8 guard from Choctaw Central, had 14.6 points and 5.8 rebounds per contest.



At left, Josh Luckett (23) of Carthage lays in one in recent action for East Central Community College; at right, Lady Warrior Mystee Dale (21) launches a shot over East Mississippi Community College defenders. Dale, is a former Choctaw Central High School standout. (EC Photo)

East Central Community College 2008-2009 Basketball Schedule

December	4 – Northeast
	8 – at Co-Lin
January	3 – Enterprise
	5 – Itawamba
	8 – Delgado
	12 – Southwest
	15 – at Hinds
	20 – Gulf Coast
	22 – Gulf Coast
	26 – Jones
	29 – Co-Lin
February	5 – at Southwest
	9 – Hinds
	12 – at Gulf Coast
	16 – Pearl River
	19 – at Jones
	23-26 – State Tourney at South men's winner
March	2-5 – NJCAA Tourney at Mississippi College.

Allison Phillips, a 5-8 forward from Leake Academy and Alisha McAfee, a 5-5 guard from Northwest Rankin also saw a lot of playing time last year. Other sophomores are Katherine Taylor, a 5-10 forward from Carthage and Sha Coleman, a 5-6 guard from Newton County.

When asked what he liked best about his sophomores, Smith replied, "They have a (championship) ring!" He said the sophomores also understand "what it feels like to win a region title… and hopefully they can help the freshmen understand what it will take to repeat."

Seven freshmen are included on this year's team, including guards Deshouri Spates (5-4) of St. Thomas Moore High School in Lafayette, La., Yolanda Jones (5-3) of Lake, Lanie Triplett (5-4) of Scott Central, Sierra Croft (5-4) of Newton County and Alisha Griffin (5-6) of Kemper County, and forwards Danielle Cole (5-8) of Philadelphia and Hannah Lee (5-11) of Leake Academy.

Smith said the freshmen and sophomores are playing well as a unit.

Serving her first year as Smith's assistant is former Lady Warrior standout Kristin Chaney of Decatur. Chaney received All-American, All-Region 23, All-Region 23 Tournament , All-State and All-Star honors at East Central, where she helped lead the 2003-04 Lady Warriors to region and state titles and a second-place finish in the Consolation Bracket of the NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship in Salina, Kan.

The ECCC women, coached by Brad Hodge, completed season action with a 31-4 record and were ranked eighth in the final NJCAA poll. She continued her success on the basketball court at the University of Southern Mississippi, where she also received numerous honors.

On the men's side, third-year head coach Maurice Bowie expects his Warriors to improve on last year's 11-13 record. He has good reason to be optimistic.

"It's not often that you sign every kid you recruit, but we are truly fortunate to have done so this year," said Bowie, a former ECCC basketball standout. "When I put the team together, I gave us depth at every position and with depth brings about competition, and that's what makes you a great team – getting after one another in practice every day."

Overall, Bowie said this year's team "is a good group of kids to be around. They have really worked hard both on and off the court. We have challenged them this year to be take pride in everything they do, not just in basketball."

Bowie said he is especially pleased with his guards and how much control they bring to the game in their role as "field generals."

Bowie said Rico Jones, a 6-3 guard also from Forest, has been "Mr. Consistent" on and off the court and "is really going to help us down the road when we need that sophomore leadership to show up."

Bowie also had praise for his top returning scorers from last year, Josh Luckett, a 6-5 guard/forward from Carthage, and Devarus "Scooter" Walker, a 6-1 guard from Newton County High School.

Forwards James Starks (6-6) of Meridian, Joseph Thompson (6-7) of Morton and Jacob Jordan (6-6) of Opelouses, La., complete the sophomore class and are also expected to make a difference this season.

Freshmen include guards Asmar Capers (6-3) of Bridgewater-Raritan, N.J., Antonio Grace (5-9) of Newton, Andre Pitchford (6-2) and Kenny Thomas (6-4), both of Jackson Provine, Steve Edwards (6-1) of Newton and Jacob Martin (6-5) of Lafayette, La., and forward Chucky Curry (6-7) of Newton.

Bowie said his goals for the season "are to graduate my kids, develop young men into men, and win at least 90 percent of our games. We also want our guys to act like, practice like and play like champions."

Cornelius Gilleylen is serving his first year as Bowie's assistant. An Amory native, Gilleylen is a former assistant men's basketball coach at St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas, where he had a stellar career.

He twice received "Defensive Player of the Year" honors and was ranked 14th in the nation in steals in 2006-07. He was also twice named "Defensive Player of the Year" at Itawamba Community College, where he played for former ECCC head coach Marty Cooper.

Good Luck Teams!

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Dale leads Lady Warriors in win, gets NJCAA honor

East Central Community College's Lady Warriors and Warriors began the Thanksgiving holidays by sweeping homestanding Enterprise-Ozark on Nov. 22 and falling to host Itawamba Community College on Nov. 24.

Mystee Dale had 21 points as East Central rolled to a 75-50 thumping of Enterprise-Ozark Community College, located in Enterprise, Ala. Dale, a 5-8 guard, is a former standout at Choctaw Central High School.

Other EC point makers were Leake Academy product Hannah Lee of Philadelphia, 19; Allison Phillips of Leake Academy, six, and Katherine Taylor of Carthage, two.

In the men's contest, sophomore Josh Luckett poured in 26 points as the Warriors rallied for an 81-70 decision. Luckett is a 6-5 guard/forward from Carthage.

Against Itawamba in Fulton, the Lady Warriors were outscored 86-69 and the Warriors were clipped 75-68 by the then No. 25 Indians, led by former ECCC head coach Marty Cooper.

Jenkins led the EC women with 22 points followed by Dale with 19. Also scoring were Phillips, 12, and Lee, 11.

Pitchford was the top scorer for the Warriors with 18 points. Also scoring were Jordan and Lofton, 11 each; Jacob Martin of Lafayette, La., seven; Grace and Luckett, six each.

DALE

The Lady Warriors (6-3) and Warriors (4-5) return to action Thursday in a rematch with Northeast Mississippi Community College. Women's action begins at 6 p.m. followed by the men's contest at 8 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. The Lady Warriors were victorious 97-85 while the Warriors fell 74-71 against Northeast during games played Nov. 20 on the Booneville campus.

ECCC squads end 2008 competition and begin MACJC South Division action by traveling to Copiah-Lincoln Community College on Monday, Dec. 8. Game times are 6 and 8 p.m. on the Wesson campus.

Dale honored

Dale was named NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball Player of the Week for the week of Nov. 25.

Dale, a 5-8 guard and former Choctaw Central standout, scored 39 points and had 12 rebounds and 10 assists in the Lady Warriors' 97-85 thumping of then No. 15 Northeast Mississippi Community College on Nov. 20.

That followed her 27-point performance in East Central's 56-45 upset of then No. 20 East Mississippi Community College on Nov. 17.

In the win over Northeast, Dale was also credited with four steals and made seven of eight three-point shots. She had six rebounds, five assists and two steals against the Lady Lions.

Dale also shot 100 percent from the free throw line during the week as well as posting a 74 percent success rate on field goals.

ECCC head coach Bill Smith said Dale is obviously deserving of the national recognition.

"This is a great honor for Mystee and East Central to be named the national player of the week," said the fourth-year head coach. "Mystee had a tremendous week for us in leading EC to two big wins over two top 25-ranked teams."

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON

Warriors

#	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Year
3	Devarus Walker	G	6'1"	So.
10	Asmar Capers	G	6'3"	Fr.
11	Rico Jones	G	6'3"	So.
12	Kenneth Barlow	G	6'5"	Fr.
15	Antonio Grace	G	6'6"	Fr.
20	James Starks	F	6'6"	So.
21	Jacob Jordan	F	6'6"	So.
22	Rod Lofton	G	6'2"	So.
23	Josh Luckett	G/F	6'5"	So.
25	Andre Pitchford	G	6'2"	Fr.
31	Kenny Thomas	G	6'4"	Fr.
32	Joseph Thompson	F	6'7"	So.
34	Steve Edwards	G	6'1"	Fr.
54	Jacob Martin	G	6'5"	Fr.
55	Chucky Curry	F	6'7"	Fr.

APPEARED IN:
CARTHAGINIAN ✓
SCOTT COUNTY TIME
UNION APPEAL
WINSTON COUNTY J
SPIRIT OF MORTON

ECCC teams hoping to maintain, improve

On one side of the coin, basketball season at East Central Community College will be about sustaining success, as the Lady Warriors strive for a repeat of their Region 23 championship last season.

On the flip side, the Warriors are hoping to find their own success after posting an 11-13 mark during the 2007-08 campaign.

Lady Warrior head coach Bill Smith, whose 2007-08 squad captured the Region 23 title and finished 22-8, said he is looking forward to starting the season but knows repeating as champions will be a challenge.

"We will be the target of most everyone we play because we are the defending region champs," said Smith, who begins his fourth season at the Lady Warrior helm. "But I hope we will not feel any added pressure in trying to defend the title. Our sophomores are really focused on a repeat."

The top returnees are Rashima Jenkins and Mystee Dale, the only returning starters.

Jenkins, a 5-9 forward from Airline High School in Bossier City, La., averaged 16.5 points and 7.1 rebounds, and Dale, a 5-8 guard from Choctaw Central, had 14.6 points and 5.8 rebounds per contest.

Allison Phillips, a 5-8 forward from Leake Academy and Alisha McAfee, a 5-5 guard from Northwest Rankin also saw a lot of playing time last year. Other sophomores are Katherine Taylor, a 5-10 forward from Carthage and Sha Coleman, a 5-6 guard from Newton County.

When asked what he liked best about his sophomores, Smith replied, "They have a (championship) ring!" He said the sophomores also understand "what it feels like to win a region title... and hopefully they can help the freshmen understand what

➤ See ECCC on 21

Lady Warriors

#	Player	Pos	Ht.	Year
4	DeShouri Spates	G	5'4"	Fr.
10	Yolanda Jones	G	5'3"	Fr.
11	Sha Coleman	G	5'6"	So.
12	Rashima Jenkins	F	5'9"	So.
15	Allison Phillips	F	5'9"	So.
20	Lanie Triplett	G	5'4"	Fr.
21	Mystee Dale	G	5'8"	So.
22	Sierra Croff	G	5'4"	Fr.
23	Alisha McAfee	G	5'5"	So.
24	Danielle Cole	F	5'8"	Fr.
25	Hannah Lee	F	5'11"	Fr.
32	Alisha Griffin	G	5'6"	Fr.
55	Katherine Taylor	F	5'10"	So.

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Seven freshmen are included on this year's team, including guards Deshaun Spates (5-4) of St. Thomas Moore High School in Lafayette, La., Yolanda Jones (5-3) of Lake, Lanie Triplett (5-4) of Scott Central, Sierra Croft (5-4) of Newton County and Alisha Griffin (5-6) of Kemper County, and forwards Danielle Cole (5-8) of Philadelphia and Hannah Lee (5-11) of Leake Academy.

"We will need the freshmen to really step up and help us this season," Smith said. "But I know it will take a little time for them to get adjusted to the college level of competition."

Smith said the freshmen and sophomores are playing well as a unit.

"They seem to get along well as a group and the team chemistry is very good," Smith said. "We will need for that chemistry to continue all year for us to be successful."

Smith said fans can expect to see "13 young ladies hustle and play hard every minute of every game" this season.

Serving her first year as Smith's assistant is former Lady Warrior standout Kristin Chaney of Decatur. Chaney received All-American, All-Region 23, All-Region 23 Tournament, All-State and All-Star honors at East Central, where she helped lead the 2003-04 Lady Warriors to region and state titles and a second-place finish in the Consolation Bracket of the NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship in Salina, Kan. The ECCC women, coached by Brad Hodge, completed season action with a 31-4 record and were ranked eighth in the final NJCAA poll. She continued her success on the basketball court at the University of Southern Mississippi, where she also received numerous honors.

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> "It's not often that you sign every kid you recruit, but we are truly fortunate to have done so..."
>
> --*Maurice Bowie*

Bowie said he is especially pleased with his guards and how much control they bring to the game in their role as "field generals."

"I am really high on Rod Lofton (6-1 guard) of Forest. He takes it personal every time he's on the court to guard the best offensive player on the other team," Bowie said.

Bowie said Rico Jones, a 6-3 guard also from Forest, has been "Mr. Consistent" on and off the court and "is really going to help us down the road when we need that sophomore leadership to show up."

Bowie also had praise for his top returning scorers from last year, Josh Luckett, a 6-5 guard/forward from Carthage, and Devarus "Scooter" Walker, a 6-1 guard from Newton County High School.

"Luckett led the guys in scoring with 13 points per game and made 59 percent of his shots," Bowie said. "Walker was second in scoring with 12 points per game. He also shot 39 percent from the three-point line."

Forwards James Starks (6-6) of Meridian, Joseph Thompson (6-7) of Morton and Jacob Jordan (6-6) of Opelouses, La., complete the sophomore class and are also expected to make a difference this season.

Freshmen include guards Asmar Capers (6-3) of Bridgewater-Raritan, N.J., Antonio Grace (5-9) of Newton, Andre Pitchford (6-2) and Kenny Thomas (6-4), both of Jackson Provine, Steve Edwards (6-1) of Newton and Jacob Martin (6-5) of Lafayette, La., and forward Chucky Curry (6-7) of Newton.

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WEEK OF 12-1-08

Luckett leads ECCC Warriors past EMCC

Warriors remain unbeaten

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—Sophomore guard Josh Luckett of Carthage pumped in 29 points and led the undefeated East Central Community College Warriors to a 73-63 decision over longtime rival East Mississippi Community College Thursday night in the Brackeen-Wood gym on the Decatur campus.

East Central, now 3-0 on the young season, received well-deserved praise following the non-division battle from third-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

"I thought our guys did a good job of protecting our home court and record," Bowie said of his Warriors, who further explained how the Warriors' undefeated record will be target for the opposition:

"It's easy being the underdog because you pick who to gun for. But when you are one of two unbeaten teams in the state, then you have to be on guard every night you step onto the court."

In addition to Luckett, other Warrior point makers were Kenny Thomas of Jackson Provine, 10; Rod Lofton of Forest, nine; Antonio Grace of Newton, eight; Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Newton County, James Starks of Meridian and Andre' Pitchford of Jackson Provine, four each; Jacob Jordan of Opelousas, La., three; and Rico Jones of Forest, two.

ECCC PHOTO

Josh Luckett (23) of Carthage lays in one of his 29 points during ECCC's 73-63 victory over rival East Mississippi Community College.

Darian Donald of Columbus poured in 19 points for the Lions, who fell to 0-2.

East Central held a 30-25 advantage at halftime.

In the women's contest, Mystee Dale's jumper at the buzzer to tie the contest fell off the mark and the defending Region 23 champion Lady Warriors were handed their first loss on the young season, a 62-60 setback to the Lady Lions.

Dale, who led EC with 22 points, drilled a three-pointer which trimmed the East Mississippi lead to 61-60 with six seconds left, but the Lady Warriors could get no closer in the hard-fought battle.

Head coach Bill Smith, whose Lady Warriors fell to 2-1 on the young campaign, said the Lady Lions' success in rebounding was the deciding factor in the non-division matchup.

"They killed us on the offensive boards. That was the difference in the ball game," Smith said following the tough loss. "We knew coming in that they were going to be pretty athletic on the boards. We just didn't do a good job of keeping them off. We gave them way too many second-chance baskets."

In addition to Dale, a former Choctaw Central High School standout, other EC scorers were Rashima Jenkins, a product of Airline High School in Bossier City, La., 10; Hannah Lee of Leake Academy, nine; DeShouri Spates of St. Thomas More High School in Lafayette, La., and Alisha McAfee of Northwest Rankin, eight each; and Danielle Cole of Philadelphia, three.

Martkia Hall of Southeast Lauderdale had 19 points to lead the Lady Lions, who improved to 2-0.

EC held a slim 30-29 lead at the break.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors will be on the road for the remaining games in November, beginning Monday, Nov. 10 as they take on Bevill State in Fayette, Ala. EC battles Holmes on Nov. 13; East Miss., Nov. 17; Northeast, Nov. 20; Enterprise (Ala.), Nov. 22; and Itawamba, Nov. 24.

EC squads host Northeast Thursday, Dec. 4. The women's game begins at 6 p.m. followed by the men's contest at 8 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NEWTON RE

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 12-1-08

ECCC squads take pair from Enterprise-Ozark, fall to Itawamba

East Central Community College's Lady Warriors and Warriors began the Thanksgiving holidays by sweeping home-standing Enterprise-Ozark on Nov. 22 and falling to host Itawamba Community College on Nov. 24.

Mystee Dale had 21 points as East Central rolled to a 75-50 thumping of Enterprise-Ozark Community College, located in Enterprise, Ala. Dale, a 5-8 guard, is a former standout at Choctaw Central High School.

Other EC point makers were Leake Academy product Hannah Lee of Philadelphia, 19; Rashima Jenkins of Airline High School in Bossier City, La., 11; Danielle Cole of Philadelphia, eight; Allison Phillips of Leake Academy, six; Yolanda Jones of Lake, five; Deshouri Spates, a product of St. Thomas More High School in Lafayette, La., three; and Katherine Taylor of Carthage, two.

EC held a 40-26 advantage at halftime.

In the men's contest, sophomore Josh Luckett poured in 26 points as the Warriors rallied for an 81-70 decision. Luckett is a 6-5 guard/forward from Carthage.

Also scoring were Rico Jones of Forest, 12; Jacob Jordan of Opelousas, La., 10; Andre' Pitchford and Kenny Thomas, both of Jackson Provine, nine each; Antonio Grace of Newton, five; Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Newton County and James Starks of Meridian, four each; and Rod Lofton of Forest, two.

EC trailed 46-37 at the break.

Against Itawamba in Fulton, the Lady Warriors were outscored 86-69 and the Warriors were clipped 75-68 by the then No. 25 Indians, led by former ECCC head coach Marty Cooper.

Jenkins led the EC women with 22 points followed by Dale with 19. Also scoring were Phillips, 12; Lee, 11; Sha Coleman of Newton County, three; and Jones, two.

The Lady Warriors trailed 36-33 at halftime.

Pitchford was the top scorer for the Warriors with 18 points. Also scoring were Jordan and Lofton, 11 each; Jacob Martin of Lafayette, La., seven; Grace and Luckett, six each; Walker, five; and Starks and Chucky Curry of Newton, two each.

EC trailed 34-25 at the break.

The Lady Warriors (6-3) and Warriors (4-5) return to action Thursday in a rematch with Northeast Mississippi Community College. Women's action begins at 6 p.m. followed by the men's contest at 8 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. The Lady Warriors were victorious 97-85 while the Warriors fell 74-71 against Northeast during games played Nov. 20 on the Booneville campus.

Deer

Continued from page 11A

stands are usually 21 to 30 feet high. If someone falls out, they could break their legs or their back.

"Most manufacturers of tree stands provide a safety belt or strap and recommend that hunters use them. We (at the MDWFP preach it but most won't do it. It is really not a matter of if but when the next fall will occur."

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 12-8-08

Lady Rebels score title at ECCC

❑ SC tops 2A power Newton for crown

On Saturday in Decatur the Scott Central Lady Rebels stood alone atop the heap of competitors in the East Central Community College High School Tournament.

And after claiming the tournament title with a 54-40 win over the Newton Lady Tigers, SC coach Chad Harrison said the view from the top was a good one.

"I was proud of our players. They played great," said Harrison, whose squad improved to 9-0 on the season. "Newton has a great program so to beat them says a lot about where we are. We have to keep our feet on the ground and stay focused."

SC also knocked off Lake and Thomastown in the tournament.

Scott Central 54 Newton 40

With a 22-11 run in the second quarter on Saturday, SC staked a 34-21 lead over Newton.

SC's pushed its lead to 50-32 at the end of the third and cruised to the victory.

Quentinette Odom racked up a double-double of 20 points and 13 rebounds for the Lady Rebels. Tyisha Amos added 17 points and Shanequa Bufkin posted 12.

Scott Central 56 Lake 43

In a game that entered the fourth tied at 35-35 on Friday, the Lady Rebels went on a 21-8 run in the fourth to knock off Lake 56-43.

The game was tied at 25-25 at the half.

Kelcia Bufkin led SC with a double-double of 24 points and 12 boards. Amos added 14 points and grabbed seven rebounds. Odom scored six and pulled down 11 boards.

Scott Central 61 Thomastown 44

SC jumped on top of Thomastown 21-10 in the first quarter on Wednesday, Dec. 3 and won 61-44.

SC led 38-17 at the half. Thomastown outscored the Lady Rebels 27-22 through the second quarter.

Amos had a double-double of 22 points and 15 rebounds, while Odom had a double-dip of 16 points and 11 boards.

Shanequa Bufkin added 11 points and Kelcia Bufkin checked in with 10 to lead the way for the Lady Rebels.

APPEARED IN:
CARTHAGINIAN
SCOTT COUNTY DEMOCRAT
UNION APPEAL RECORD
WINSTON COUNTY STAR
SPIRIT OF MORTON LEDGER
THE PHILADELPHIAN

WEEK OF 12-8-08

EC rides Scooter past NE

from school reports

Sophomore guard Devarus "Scooter" Walker put on a career performance for the East Central Community College Warriors Thursday night as the former Newton County High School product poured in 31 points — including seven 3-pointers — in leading East Central to a 75-64 win over Northeast Mississippi Community College in Decatur.

With the victory, East Central improves to 5-5 under third-year head coach Maurice Bowie and avenged an earlier 74-71 setback to the Tigers at Booneville.

In addition to Walker, other Warrior point makers were Josh Luckett with 16, Rod Lofton with 11, and Rico Jones with six.

Chris Gamble and Adrian Caldwell had 12 points each to lead Northeast (6-4).

EC held a 34-24 advantage at halftime.

EC women 76
Northeast 75

In the women's contest, the Lady Warriors held on for the one point nail-biter over Northeast, completing a season sweep of their non-division rival. EC rolled to a 97-85 thumping over the Lady Tigers earlier at Booneville.

Sophomore guard Mystee Dale was again the top scorer for East Central, as the former Choctaw Central High School standout poured in 25 points.

The defending Region 23 champions, who improved to 7-3 under fourth-year head coach Bill Smith, also benefitted from a 15-point performance by Alisha McAfee.

Also scoring in double figures were Rashima Jenkins with 14 and former Leake Academy standout Hannah Lee of Philadelphia with 13.

Charnice Mitchell pumped in 19 points to lead the Lady Tigers (4-4).

EC led 41-33 at the break.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors opened MACJC South Division action at Copiah-Lincoln on Monday.

Scooter Walker shoots in EC's 75-64 win over Northeast last week. Walker scored 31 points.

ECCC photo

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 12-8-08

Juco Basketball

ECCC squads fall at Co-Lin

from school reports

MACJC South Division action began on a disappointing note for East Central Community College as both squads fell to Copiah-Lincoln Monday night in Wesson.

The Lady Warriors were clipped 76-71 by the 13th-ranked Lady Wolves and the Warriors fell 62-59 to the Co-Lin men.

Sophomore Rashima Jenkins had 24 points to lead EC, which fell to 7-4 under fourth-year head coach Bill Smith.

Also scoring in double figures for the defending Region 23 champions were Mystee Dale of Choctaw Central with 20 points and Allison Phillips of Leake Academy with 10. Hannah Lee, also a Leake product, scored seven.

Rachel Vigers pumped in 24 points to lead the Lady Wolves, who improved to 8-1.

Co-Lin held a 40-37 lead at halftime.

In the men's contest, Newton High product Antonio Grace of Meridian had 14 points to lead the Warriors whose record dipped to 5-6 under third-year head coach Maurice Bowie.

Josh Luckett scored 12, Andre' Pitchfordhad 10 and James Starks of Meridian had eight.

Rob Wallace poured in 20 points for Co-Lin, which improved to 5-5.

The Wolves led 24-21 at the break.

East Central squads return to action following the Christmas holidays by hosting Enterprise-Ozark on Jan. 3.

APPEARED IN:

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12-27-08

ECCC Warriors, Lady Warriors post wins on court

FROM STAFF REPORTS

DECATUR—Sophomore guard Devarus "Scooter" Walker put on a career performance for the East Central Community College Warriors earlier this month when he poured in 31 points - including seven three-pointers-in leading East Central to a 75-64 win over Northeast Mississippi Community College.

With the victory, East Central improved to 5-5 under third-year head coach Maurice Bowie and avenged an earlier 74-71 setback to the Tigers earlier in Booneville.

In addition to Walker, other Warrior point makers were Josh Luckett, 16; ***Rod Lofton, 11, and Rico Jones, six, both of Forest***; James Starks and Andre' Pitchford, four each; and Antonio Grace, three.

In the women's contest, the Lady Warriors held on for 76-75 nail-biter over Northeast, completing a season sweep of their non-division rival. EC rolled to a 97-85 thumping over the Lady Tigers earlier on the Booneville campus.

Sophomore guard Mystee Dale was again the top scorer for East Central with 25 points.

The defending Region 23 champions, who improved to 7-3 under fourth-year head coach Bill Smith, also benefitted from a 15-point performance by Alisha McAfee. Also scoring in double-figures were Rashima Jenkins, 14; *and former Leake Academy standout Hannah Lee of Philadelphia*, 13 points.

Rounding out the scoring were Allison Philips, four; Danielle Cole and DeShouri Spates, two each; and Katherine Taylor, one.

Loss to Co-Lin

WESSON—South Division action began on a disappointing note for ECCC as both squads fell to Copiah-Lincoln Community College on Dec. 8.

The Lady Warriors were clipped 76-71 by the 13th-ranked Lady Wolves and the Warriors fell 62-59 to the Co-Lin men.

In girls action, Rashima Jenkins, had 24 points to lead EC, which fell to 7-4.

Also scoring were Dale, 20; Phillips, 10; Lee, seven; McAfee and Katherine Taylor, four each; and DeShouri Spates, two.

In the men's contest, Antonio Grace had 14 points to lead the Warrior whose record dipped to 5-

Other point makers we Josh Luckett, 12; Andre' Pitchford, 10; James Stark eight; ***Rico Jones of Fore six***; Devarus "Scooter" Walker, five; and ***Rod Lofton of Forest*** and Jacc Jordan, two each.

ECCC plays at home Saturday. The women play at 3 p.m. and men at 5 p.m

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Jan 14

Lake native sings for governor

Special to The Record

East Central Community College music instructor Natalie Duncan Emmons shared her musical talents for the inauguration of Gov. Haley Barbour on Tuesday.

Emmons sang the National Anthem to begin the Inauguration ceremony that was held at 11 a.m. at the State Capitol. She was also one of the featured performers for a Gospel Prayer Breakfast honoring Governor Barbour scheduled the previous day at the Mississippi Agriculture Museum.

Emmons

The Lake resident said she felt "very honored" about performing for the governor's inauguration.

"I have always had a special love for not only music, but politics as well," Emmons stated, "so for me this was the best of both worlds!"

Emmons was a familiar face during Gov. Barbour's re-election campaign in 2007. She performed two of her own compositions, "Mississippi," and the "Haley Barbour Song," at various political rallies throughout the state.

She first performed "Mississippi" in 2006 for Phil Bryant during his successful campaign for lieutenant governor.

Some of the song's lyrics include the following:

"Mississippi, it's the home of Southern grace. Mississippi, there's a helping hand, there's a smiling face. Born and raised in a small, small town in the heart and soul of Dixie, you can bet I'm proud to be from Mississippi.

The "Haley Barbour Song" includes the following lyrics:

"Haley Barbour is a man among men, strong Christian values and a fine Republican. For these four years he's been a light in the harbor.

See **EMMONS**, Page 11A

Faculty / Administration

WEEK OF Jan. 14

Emmons

From Page 1A

United we will stand with Haley Barbour."

Emmons, at the young age of 29, is widely known for her musical talents. She has been writing Southern Gospel and Contemporary music for many years and has had more than 30 songs published. Six of her songs were recorded by major artists and two of her selections were chartered nationally.

Emmons recently signed a three-year writer's contract with Heartland Publishing in Nashville.

Her honors include winning the top prize in the National Quartet Talent Search in 2001 with an original song titled, "I Think It's Raining."

She performed two selections at the Gospel Prayer Breakfast, "Old Gospel Medley" and "I Still Believe."

An ECCC graduate, Emmons holds bachelor and master's degrees in music from Mississippi College.

She serves as keyboard instructor at ECCC and provides accompaniment for the College's Concert Choir.

She is married to Joey Emmons and has a daughter, Tallie Johnston.

Emmons is the daughter of the Rev. Larry and Pequita Duncan of Lake.

East Central Community College was also represented at the Governor's Inauguration by the Wall O' Sound Marching Band, one of five community and junior college bands participating in the Inaugural Parade.

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College Visitors / Events / News

WEEK OF Jan. 14

Gospel program set Feb. 9 at ECCC

A gospel program featuring Spencer Taylor and the Highway QC's will be held at the South Gymnasium at East Central Community College on Saturday, Feb. 9, at 6:30 p.m. Also on program are The Jr. Angels, The Kings of Joy, The Sons of Zion, The Sounds of Faith and Genesis.

Advance tickets are $10 each; or $12 at the door.

Telephone Rev. Pervis Mann at 601-863-6362 or 601-267-6350 or Pecola Mann at 601-267-4639 for ticket information.

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Alumni / Scholarships / Homecoming

WEEK OF Jan. 14

a Record Wednesday, January 16, 2008

EC's homecoming past and present

THE SECOND TIME AROUND

Ovid Vickers

East Central Junior College was established in 1928, but it is uncertain when the first homecoming was held. It is known that at the 1939-1940 homecoming, Frances Thomas Williams of Philadelphia was the homecoming queen. Since that year, a homecoming queen has been elected each year with the exception of a four-year period during World War II. Homecoming queens were not pictured in the yearbook until 1949 when Miss Ramona Mitchell was elected.

During the early years, the homecoming queen was not elected by the student body. She was chosen by the members of the football team, and she was escorted during halftime ceremonies by the captain of the team. The first homecoming queens were called "sponsors," and the number elected could range from one to three. Being selected as the area who wanted to showcase their cars.

The eight automobiles lined up on the street behind the old gymnasium and entered the south end of the football field which, at that time, was located where the Vocational-Technical complex sits today.

Each car had an assigned driver, and the escort rode in the front seat with the driver while the queen and members of her court sat on pillows above the car's back seat. When the car had circled the field, it stopped at midfield and the escorts stepped out court were wearing tuxedoes and evening gowns. Homecoming queens like Camelia Harvey Noblin, Carolyn Marshall McCraney, and Patsy Dunigan Clark wore beautiful dresses. Satin, tulle, sequins, and lace were the order of the day.

For a number of years, the homecoming court was presented twice. During the alumni banquet which was held at 5 p.m., the court was presented as a part of the program. This provided the opportunity for those attending the banquet to see the court up close. Presenting the court at the banquet was discontinued because of the length of the program.

Fifty years ago, those attending the alumni banquet numbered 30 or 40 people. Today, the banquet (now a luncheon) is so well attended that all rooms adjacent to the cafeteria are opened in order to accommodate the overflow crowd.

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homecoming queen was considered quite an honor. Lois Woodward Pennington had the honor of being selected both as homecoming queen and, later in the year, as May Queen.

Before 1955, girls who were members of the homecoming court wore suits rather than eveningwear. Each girl carried a large bouquet of either roses or chrysanthemums. It is interesting that these young ladies often wore hats as a part of their ensembles.

By 1955, homecoming games were played at night because lights had been installed on the football field. The homecoming court consisted of a queen and her escort, a maid of honor and her escort, and three sophomore maids and three freshman maids and their escorts. The female members of the homecoming court were elected by the student body. Each young lady had the privilege of choosing her escort for the evening.

Members of the homecoming court rode onto the football field in a convertible automobile. These cars were furnished by individuals or automobile agencies in and helped the members of the court as they formed a line at midfield. Information about each young lady and her escort had been read from the press box while the convertible was circling the field.

When each member of the court had dismounted, the group walked from midfield to a position in front of the west bleachers where the president of the college crowned the queen. Following the game, a homecoming dance was held in the old gymnasium. The dance, which always ended at midnight, was attended by students, faculty, and alumni.

In the earlier years of homecoming, a parade was held. The queen and her court rode in the parade, and organizations on the campus each built a float. The college and high school bands marched, and the floats always predicted victory for the Warrior football team. A competition was held for the best floats and best decorated dormitory. The floats grew to be quite elaborate. One year an operating ferris wheel, holding attractive young ladies, was the winner.

By 1955, those in the

Today, the homecoming court is elected by the student body, and the members are presented at the halftime of the homecoming game which begins at 2:30 in the afternoon. A section is reserved for the court, and before halftime they assemble on the east side of the football field and are presented as they are escorted across the field through an avenue of flag girls while the Wall of sound Band plays appropriate music. The queen continues to be crowned by the college president who is accompanied onto the field by the previous year's homecoming queen.

Records indicate that, during the history of the college, 69 young ladies have served as either homecoming queens or footballs sponsors. Homecoming with its alumni banquet, class reunions, football game, and homecoming queen and her court is a greatly-anticipated event when old friends can once again reminisce about their college days at East Central.

Ovid Vickers, a retired East Central Community College professor, writes a weekly column for The Newton Record.

WEEK OF Jan. 21

Peeples selected East Central student life director/recruiter

Jonathan Peeples of Louisville was recently named Director of Student Life/Recruiter at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president.

Peeples, who began his new duties on Jan. 3 is responsible for security concerns on campus in addition to matters related to dormitory life.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Peeples was employed as an extension associate for the Mississippi State University Extension Service in Starkville.

He is an ordained minister and previously served as pastor of Oak Grove Baptist Church. He is also a former youth director at Murphy Creek Baptist Church in Louisville.

Peeples also has extensive experience in law enforcement, mostly with the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks. He also served as a part-time deputy for the Winston County Sherriff's Department and is a former police officer for the Town of Ackerman. He began his a career as a security guard for Sentinel Security Services on the University of Mississippi campus in Oxford.

Peeples is an accomplished marksman and has won numerous awards in competition. He is also a certified instructor in various firearms and archery.

PEEPLES

He is a 1989 graduate of Ackerman High School and attended Wood Junior College in Mathiston from 1989-91. He received a bachelor of public administration degree, with emphasis in criminal justice, from the University of Mississippi in 1993. He has also completed a 10-week law enforcement training program at the Mississippi Law Enforcement Officer's Training Academy and a five-week advance basic training course at the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks.

He is married to the former Bridgett Joiner of Louisville. They have a three-year-old son, Levi.

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WEEK OF Jan. 21

Savell rejoins ECCC ADN faculty

Christy Savell of Decatur has returned to the Associate Degree Nursing faculty at East Central Community College.

She is also former practical nursing instructor at Meridian Community College. She was earlier employed at healthcare facilities in Jackson, Collinsville, Meridian and Union. In all, she has 18 years of experience in nursing.

The Beulah Hubbard graduate received an associate's degree in nursing from Meridian Community College, and earned bachelor and master's degree in nursing from the University of Southern Mississippi.

She is married to David Savell and they have a son, Cody McMahan, and a daughter, Sydni Savell, both students in the Newton County School System.

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WEEK OF Jan. 28

Russum Joins ECCC Associate Degree Nursing Staff

Russum

Paula R. Russum of Burns has joined the Associate Degree Nursing faculty at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president.

Russum, who began her new duties on January 3, 2008, previously served as director of the Geriatric Psychiatric Inpatient Program at Scott Regional Hospital in Morton.

She is also a former adjunct clinical instructor at ECCC.

In all, she has 20 years nursing experience in North Carolina and Mississippi, working in areas including direct patient care, grant writing, clinical research and administration. She has also served as a medical missionary in Guatemala, Central America.

Her community activities include serving as pianist at Walnut Grove Baptist Church in Sylvarena.

A graduate of Raleigh High School, Russum received bachelor degrees in physical education and nursing from the University of Southern Mississippi, and earned a master's degree in nursing from the University of South Alabama in Mobile.

She has two children, Garrett, 13 and Rachel Hope, five.

Russum is the daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. John B. Russum of Burns.

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WEEK OF Jan. 28

Named ECCC Dean of Healthcare

Mann

After serving the past few months as interim dean of healthcare education at East Central Community College in Decatur, Betsy L. Mann has officially been named to the post, announced Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president.

Dr. Sutphin, whose recommendation of Mann for the position was approved at the December meeting of the College's Board of Trustees, said her experience in the healthcare area as a practitioner and as an educator "will serve the College well."

"During her semester as Interim Dean, she handled herself with dignity and determination to ensure that the College's healthcare programs operate in a professional manner to serve the needs of our students," said Dr. Sutphin. "She is fully cognizant of the needs and opportunities of the College's healthcare programs and is committed to the growth of the programs to meet the growing demand for healthcare workers."

As healthcare dean, Mann, who has been a member of the College's associate degree nursing faculty since 2002, is responsible for all of ECCC's health-related programs, which in addition to the ADN program includes practical nursing, surgical technology, emergency medical technology and healthcare assistant program.

"I appreciate being trusted with the opportunity to grow and improve Healthcare Education Division at East Central," Mann said. "We have the potential to do progressive things that are needed in this area and we have a team of instructors committed to excellence. I look forward to the challenge."

A graduate of Neshoba Central High School, Mann holds an associate's degree in nursing from Meridian Community College and received bachelor and master's degrees in nursing from the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

She is married to Dr. John Mann and they reside in Philadelphia.

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WEEK OF Jan. 28

Lawrence, Clayton ECCC student, prof of the year

Special to The Record

Chemistry instructor Peggy Clayton and sophomore pre-nursing major Debbie Lawrence of Kosciusko have been named East Central Community College's HEADWAE Instructor and Student of the Year, respectively, for 2007-08.

They will be honored with other outstanding college faculty members and students at the annual HEADWAE (Higher Education Appreciation Day: Working Toward Academic Excellence) luncheon scheduled Tuesday, February 19, 2008, in Jackson. The program begins at the State Capitol at 10 a.m. followed by the Awards Luncheon at 11:45 a.m. at the Marriott Hotel in downtown Jackson.

Clayton

The annual observance was established by the Mississippi Legislature to honor the academically talented students and faculty members of Mississippi's higher education institutions who have made outstanding contributions in promot-

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ing academic excellence.

Clayton began her employment at ECCC in August 2004 after serving the previous 20 years as a science teacher on the high school level, most recently at Southeast Lauderdale High School in Meridian. She is also a former faculty member at Northeast Lauderdale in Meridian, Enterprise and Utica schools. In addition, she is a former adjunct chemistry and physical science instructor at Meridian Community College.

Lawrence

She received numerous honors during her high school teaching career, including her induction into the Mississippi Economic Council STAR Teacher Hall of Fame, awarded to recipients of STAR Teacher honors for the tenth year; Mississippi Science Olympiad Outstanding Coach; Mississippi Association of Physicists Outstanding Teacher; and American Chemical Society Outstanding Teacher for Mississippi. A graduate of Lamar School in Meridian, Clayton holds a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Millsaps College and a master's of education from Mississippi State University. She has completed additional class work at the University of Alabama and University of Southern Mississippi. In addition, she has received certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. She and her husband, Tom, a retired educator and administrator, reside in Meridian where they are members and Sunday school teachers at Highland Baptist Church. They have three grown sons and three grandchildren.

Board / Officials

WEEK OF Feb. 4

MASN officers at EC

East Central Community College associate degree nursing students recently elected to the Board of Directors of the Mississippi Association of Student Nurses (MASN). Members and their board positions include (from left) DeAna Morrow, secretary; Gillian Poole, director of legislation; and Abby Yates, chairperson for the nominations and elections committee, all of Philadelphia; and Traci Wilson of Carthage, director of internet communications. Nursing instructors Nan Anderson and Christy Savell serve as sponsors of the Association of Student Nurses at East Central (ASNEC).

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THE MERIDIAN STAR
Friday, February 8, 2008

The history of

East Central Junior College, as it was named in the original charter, opened its doors in Decatur, Mississippi, to a freshman class of 18 students for the first regular session in September 1928.

Proceedings that led to the establishment of ECJC began on March 10, 1914, in the office of Newton County Superintendent of Education W. A. Coursey, when the County School Board accepted the proposal of the Decatur Municipal School District and located Newton County Agricultural High School in the existing public school facilities. The board, at the same March meeting, also appointed the agricultural high school's first trustees - W.C. Mabry and D. Blackburn.

College classes were added to the curriculum of the agricultural high school in the fall of 1928, and East Central Junior College was officially in business, with only Newton County providing support.

The first faculty members were Mrs. Stella Weathersby Newsome, who taught English and history, and Robert Marshall, who served as mathematics and science instructor.

Selected as the College's first trustees were W. C. Mabry, Jim Rivers, M.J. Scarborough, R. A. Armstrong, L.Q.C. Williams and Dr. B. F. Hunter. Roscoe Pugh was named the College's first president. He also served as superintendent of the agricultural high school.

Support for the College began to grow, as Neshoba County agreed to join the district during the first year of operation. Scott County became a part of the district in 1930 followed by Leake County in 1931 and Winston County in 1935.

When Winston County became the last supporting county to join the East Central district, a new administration assumed leadership. Dr. L. O. Todd became the College's second president and led the College to tremendous growth as the country continued its recovery from the Great Depression in 1929.

During Dr. Todd's 19-year tenure, East Central saw its financial situation improve and was able to expand the

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East Central Community College

physical plant (eight major buildings were added to the campus) and increase the number of faculty members and students. The College also broadened its curriculum, sought and received accreditation, excelled in intercollegiate sports and took a recognized place among Mississippi's public institutions.

Also during this period, East Central was host to the famed Thirty-First (Dixie) Division of the Mississippi National Guard. The group was mainly composed of college students and was commanded by Pat Wilson, then dean of men and former EC coach. The unit was activated early in World War II, and as a result, the College – including the faculty and student body – was mostly composed of women. Because of the war, East Central operated on a reduced scale from 1942 to 1945.

When the war ended, an influx of students – mostly veterans – arrived on campus. Thanks in part to the GI Bill, East Central experienced its greatest period of growth in students and faculty.

Throughout the College's first 18 years, the curriculum was mainly liberal arts in nature, offering college-parallel work in the arts and sciences, the first two years of teacher education programs, and lower-division work in agriculture, home economics and business. Beginning in the late forties, the College made a concerted effort to offer vocational courses in the skilled trades. Five non-credit courses were offered in the immediate post-war period.

Beginning in 1952, Mississippi's public junior colleges began receiving capital improvement funds from the state. A year later, a new president began his tenure. Arno Vincent, an EC alumnus who served the College as math instructor, coach and administrator, was named as Dr. Todd's successor.

During Vincent's nine years at the helm, one building was completed and four other major buildings were constructed. Also during this period, Mississippi changed its basic school laws. The "minimum foundation" program was approved in 1953, restructuring the secondary districts. In 1958, East Central discontinued the high school division, thus ending the agricultural high school, which served the area for approximately 44 years.

Douglas Montgomery became the College's fourth president in 1962. Under his leadership, the College began offering technical courses, as the state renewed emphasis on vocational education. Montgomery's tenure also resulted in the completion of significant construction in the dormitory and food service areas.

The Charles Wright era began in 1966 and during the first six years of his administration six major buildings were constructed and a seventh structure was on the drawing boards. The educational levels of faculty and staff were upgraded during this period. ECJC completed the 1972 school year with the highest qualified staff (by degree and experience) up to that point in time.

A change in leadership occurred at the College in 1985, as Dr. Eddie M.

Smith returned to his alma mater and became East Central's sixth president.

It was also during this period when East Central joined other two-year institutions in changing their name from "Junior" to "Community," to more accurately reflect the College's mission of service to the community and surrounding area.

for the former longtime dean of women) and the Eddie M. Smith Student Union (honoring the longtime president). A dedication ceremony was also held for Founders' Gymnasium, named in tribute to Dr. Benjamin Franklin "Frank" Hunter, James "Jim" McDonald Thames and the many others instrumental in the establishment of East Central Junior College.

Buildings were also dedicated and named for Denver Brackeen (now deceased), former standout basketball player and Lucille Wood, former longtime East Central women's basketball coach (Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building); Dr. Brad Tucker, former dean of instruction (Bradford J. Tucker Applied Technology Center); Ovid Vickers, former English instructor and division chairman (Ovid S. Vickers Fine Arts Center); Dr. Richard Ethridge, former social sciences instructor and division chairman (Richard C. Ethridge Hall); and Arno Vincent, former president (Walter Arno Vincent Administration Building). The College also designated an area of campus as Sullivan Park, named in memory of Mrs. Janie Harrelson Huff Sullivan, longtime education instructor.

An increased emphasis was also made in the area of alumni relations and fundraising with the creation of the Office of Development and Alumni Relations in 1996. By the fall of 1999, the ECCC Foundation had secured over $1 million in cash and in-kind contributions. An alumni magazine – The Warrior – was also established during the Smith administration.

Among projects sponsored and completed through the Foundation include the Welcome Home Archway and electronic marquee. The archway is a re-creation of a similar structure that greeted its citizens in the five-county district. Through the efforts of East Central's Workforce Development Center, a new facility – the Productivity Enhancement Lab- opened at the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center to provide customized training to meet the technical, professional and personal needs of area industries and businesses. Mobile classrooms were also established throughout the five-county district to provide computer training.

Various campus improvements have also been made during the Sutphin Administration, including the Richard L. "Dick" Livingston Recreation/Study Trail, an extension of the existing trail located near the College lake. The trail, named in memory of the late state representative from Pulaski, is paved, lighted and handicapped accessible. The path also includes trees that are labeled with their scientific and common names, making the trail part of the College's Urban Forestry Outdoor Classroom.

Other improvements include the completion of the second and final phase of the Eddie M. Smith Student Union Building; renovation of the area known as the "East Mall," which is located between the Vincent Administration Building and Mabry Memorial Cafeteria; renovation of several classrooms in the Frank Rives Education Building; and the establishment of the Memorabilia Room located in the Mamie Ethel Burton Library.

The most recent project is the construction of a new entrance to the Warrior football stadium, now known as Bill and Louise Bailey Stadium. Funding for the project came from private sources and included a $100,000 donation from the Baileys, who

Feb 4

During Dr. Smith's tenure, an increased emphasis was placed on recruiting students of all ages. As a result of a closely followed recruitment and retention plan, enrollment increased during each of his 15 years at the helm.

East Central also began offering programs in the health-related field, including surgical technology, practical nursing and associate degree nursing. Also added were gerontology technology and computer networking technology.

The College also increased it evening class offerings during Dr. Smith's administration, by offering a wide variety of coursework at various locations in the five-county district.

Various renovations of College buildings and additions to the Decatur campus were also made during this period. East Central purchased the former Newton County High School property (earlier Decatur High School) and made extensive renovations. The area is now referred to as the South Campus and includes classroom and laboratory space, faculty offices and a library for the Town of Decatur.

New buildings constructed under Dr. Smith's leadership included the Associate Degree Nursing/Child Care Technology Building, Workforce Development Center (previously referred to as the Skill/Tech One-Stop Career Center), Erma Lee Barber Hall (a women's dorm named campus visitors from 1950 to the early 1970s. A new fitness trail was developed on the north end of campus near the College lake, and a campus tree planting/landscaping project was completed on campus. The campus-wide arboretum and outdoor project was officially named in honor of the Day family, whose members continue to provide financial support.

New sports added during the Smith administration included women's softball and men's soccer. (Rodeo competition also began as an intercollegiate sport but was later discontinued.)

In the area of technology, the College became fully involved in the "Information Age." Course requirements and other information relative to the College were added to East Central's web page, www.eccc.edu.

The College also placed an emphasis on distance learning and became involved in the development of the Mississippi Virtual Community College, which provides online instruction in various courses.

East Central also began offering training in Adult Basic Education/General Education Development (GED), Workforce Development and Tech Prep Education.

By 1999, the College's physical plant was valued at $16,301,424, and laboratory/instructional equipment at $2,995,614. East Central also made a $1,282,000 investreside in Decatur. An additional $80,000 was raised through the sale of donor bricks and other contributions.

Numerous improvements continue to be made at the Clark/Gay Baseball Complex, including a new entrance, construction of two decks, new railings, chair back seating and flag poles representing each of the MACJC member schools.

During the 2007 fall term, approximately 2300 students were enrolled in academic, technical and career courses and another 12,000 students took advantage of non-credit courses including ABE/GED classes and industrial training provided by the Workforce Development Center.

Most recent accomplishments in athletics include the Diamond Warrior baseball team capturing the 2007 MACJC State Baseball Championship, and the 2007 Lady Warrior fast-pitch softball squad wining a third straight MACJC Central Division title. The Lady Warrior basketball team also had success in 2007, advancing to the MACJC and Region 23 tournaments.

Numerous student athletes continue to be selected each year for NJCAA Academic All-American honors and other accolades.

ECCC students also continue to find success when transferring to four-year colleges and universities, as indicated in annual reports from the respective institutions.

Feb 4

ment in the campus' information technology infrastructure, which resulted in campus-wide installation of fiber optics, the rewiring of all buildings with data cable and the creation of seven computer labs.

On July 12, 2000, Dr. Phil A. Sutphin became East Central's seventh president. Dr. Sutphin previously served the College as dean of instruction and dean of students.

Enrollment continued to increase under Dr. Sutphin's leadership and reached 2,735 students in the 2004 fall semester.

The College also expanded its course offerings with the addition of the healthcare assistant program, hotel and restaurant management technology and culinary arts technology.

Emphasis has also been placed in the area of technology, with East Central offering a number of online classes through the Mississippi Virtual Community College Network.

In addition, the College has continued to serve the educational training needs of

Campus improvements soon to be completed include construction of the Ronald C. Davis Science Building, which will be located adjacent to the Cross Hall where science classes are currently being held. Phase I will include construction of the new building while Phase II will contain renovations to the existing facility. Funding for Phase I of the $4 million project will come from State bond funds.

Regarding ECCC's past and future, Dr. Sutphin, now completing his eighth year as president, said: "East Central has a long history of providing educational services to our five-county district. From our beginning as a transfer institution to our current mission in transfer, career-technical, adult education and workforce training, we continue to serve our area. As we move into the future, we build our programs on the foundations and traditions of the past."

For more information call toll free, 1-877-462-3222 or visit the College website, www.eccc.edu.

WEEK OF 2-18-2008

ECCC PHOTO

COUNSELORS ATTEND ECCC WORKSHOP

These school counselors from Scott County were among area educators who attended the 2008 High School Counselor Workshop held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Seated from left are Kim Shoemaker, Scott Central High School; Karla Weir, Lake High School; Dawn McKee, Sebastopol High School; and Karen Moorehead, Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center. Standing from left are Debbie Rasco, Morton High School; Martha Henry and Minnie Hollifield, both of Forest High School; and Tracey Price, Scott Central High School. Also pictured is Michael Alexander, ECCC academic counselor/recruiter. During the one-day workshop, participants received an overview of the various academic, technical, career and health-related programs offered at ECCC. Information was also provided on academic transfer programs, dual course credit, work-based learning, ACT residual testing, financial aid opportunities and scholarships, housing, admissions standards and requirements, and distance learning. ECCC serves Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties.

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WEEK OF 2-25-08

ECCC hosts Winston County Counselors

These school counselors from Winston County were among area educators who attended the 2008 High School Counselor Workshop held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Seated from left are Gloria Mason and Cindy Stewart, both representing the Louisville/Winston Vocational Complex; and Lee Ann Hailey, Nanih Waiya High School. Standing from left are Jackie Wise, Noxapater High School; and Danny Burns, Louisville/Winston Vocational Complex. Also pictured is Lanette Hanna, ECCC academic counselor/recruiter. During the one-day workshop, participants received an overview of the various academic, technical, career and health-related courses offered at ECCC. Information was also provided on academic transfer programs, dual course credit, work-based learning, ACT residual testing, financial aid opportunities and scholarships, housing, admissions standards and requirements and distance learning. ECCC serves Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties.

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WEEK OF 3-2-08

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC BOARD OF TRUSTEES LEADERS ANNOUNCED

Recently re-elected to two-year terms as officers of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees are (from left) Prentice Coleman, chairman, of Philadelphia; Jack Winstead, vice chairman, of Lawrence; and Royce Shaw, secretary, of Forest. Copeland is beginning his seventh two-year term as chairman and Winstead is in his fifth term as vice chairman. Shaw begins his third term as secretary. The elections were held during the December 2007 meeting on the Decatur campus.

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WEEK OF 3-2-08

ECCC PHOTO

LONGMIRE ADDRESSES ECCC ELECTRICAL CLASS

Charles Longmire of Raytheon Systems, Inc. in Forest is shown speaking to electronic technology students at East Central Community College as part of the recent "Breakfast with Industry" event held on the Decatur campus. Longmire discussed career opportunities and other matters related to employment during his presentation. Representatives from other area industries and businesses also participated in the annual program, held in association with National Career-Education Month. For more information on career-technical programs offered at ECCC, contact Wayne Eason, dean, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 211. The email address is weason@eccc.edu.

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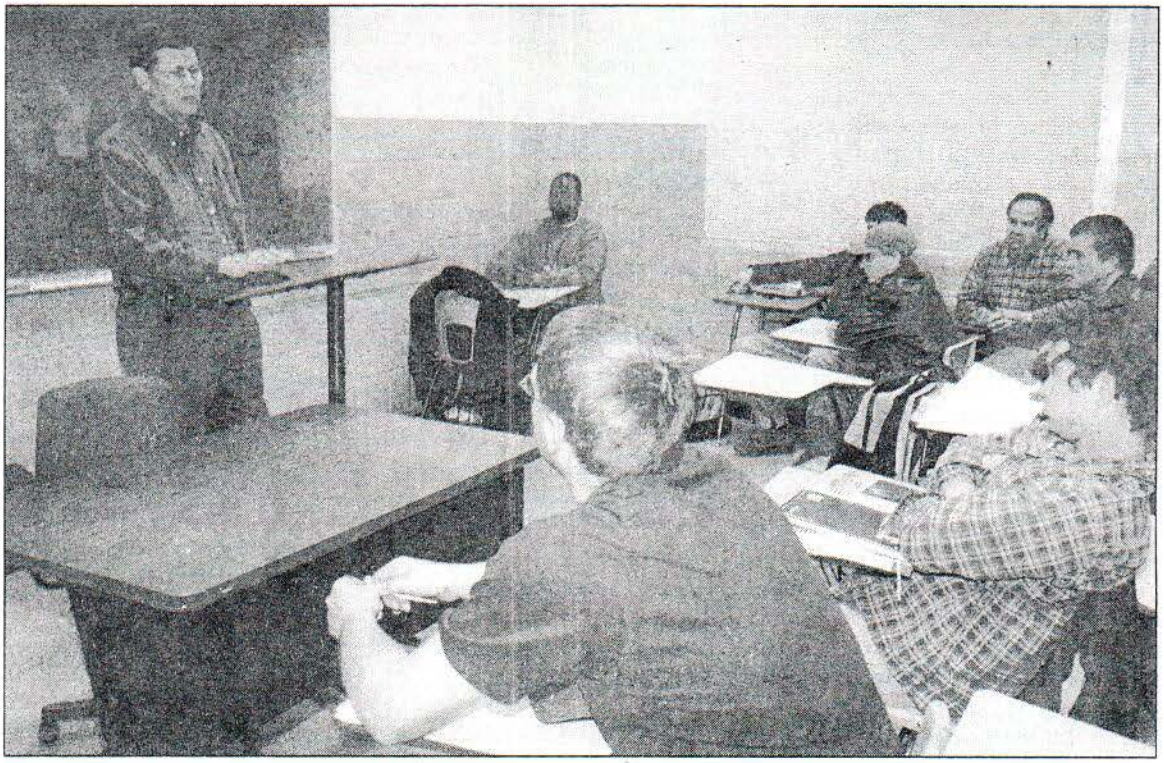
WEEK OF 3-2-08

McKinley addresses ECCC welding students



Tommy McKinley of Taylor Machine Works in Louisville is shown speaking to welding students at East Central Community College as part of the recent "Breakfast with Industry" event held on the Decatur campus. McKinley provided information on career opportunities and other matters related to employment. Representatives from other area industries and businesses also participated in the annual program, held in association with National Career-Technical Education Month. For more information on career-technical programs offered at ECCC, contact Wayne Eason, dean, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 211. The email address is weason@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF 3-9-08

Ladner joins EC Board

Monte Ladner of Carthage was welcomed as a new member of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees at the group's February meeting held on the Decatur campus. Ladner, with Board Chairman Prentice Copeland (left) and ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, joins the board following his election as Leake County Superintendent of Schools.

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WEEK OF March 24

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC INSTRUCTORS RECEIVE ONLINE CERTIFICATION

East Central Community College instructors display certificates recently received for completing the MSVCC (Mississippi Virtual Community College) Certified Online Instructor Course offered by the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges (SBCJC). Pictured are (front row, from left) computer technology instructors Judy Hurtt of Forest and Brenda Johnson of Philadelphia, culinary arts instructor Alexei Huguley of Starkville and David Case of Meridian, ECCC Director of Technology Management; and (back row, from left) Terry Pollard, eLearning Specialist for the SBCJC who made the presentation; Dr. Chris Jenkins, ECCC Dean of Distance Learning; computer network support technology instructor Thomas Fortenberry of Union, biology instructor and science department chairman Joe Johnson of Meridian, Christian Pruett, SBCJC Director of Distance Learning; Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, ECCC Vice President for Instruction; and ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

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WEEK OF March 24

ECCC Classes of 1957, 1958, and 1959 set up scholarship to assist ECCC students

For almost 10 years, members of the 1957, 1958 and 1959 graduating classes at East Central Community College have held reunions during homecoming activities on the Decatur campus.

The group was first organized by the late Martha Tullos Hummel, a 1958 ECCC graduate who resided in Greenwood. Mrs. Hummel, a Choctaw County native and 1956 graduate of Louisville High School, often remarked how she "treasured the memory of her classmates....and remembered that many warm friendships had formed" during her East Central years.

Before she died in September 2004, Mrs. Hummel encouraged members of the three classes to continue their annual get-togethers, which they have done so in impressive numbers. As a result of the reunions and continued friendships, the group decided to establish a scholarship to assist ECCC students with college expenses.

The Classes of 1957, 1958 and 1959 Scholarship will be awarded when the $25,000 goal is reached. Approximately $2220 has been received for the scholarship as of mid-March 2008.

For more information or to make a contribution contact the ECCC Office of Development and Alumni Relations, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 327. The email address is sholling@eccc.edu.

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Buildings / Programs

WEEK OF 3/31

ECCC offers cutting edge IT testing system

East Central Community College has an agreement with Pearson VUE, electronic certification and licensure testing business of Pearson, to provide information technology certification test delivery, using the Pearson testing system.

The Pearson VUE advanced computer-based testing system administers exams for leading IT certification programs such as Cisco®, CompTIA®, Citrix®, Novell® and others through a global network of quality test centers.

"We're very excited about our new partnership with Pearson VUE," said Kyle James, information technology specialist for the Workforce Development Center at ECCC.

"The Pearson VUE Testing System is the most powerful available. We're pleased to partner with a company whose breakthrough technology and passion for service will allow us to provide even greater service for our customers."

Among the technological advances of the Pearson VUE system is the ability of test candidates to register and reschedule their tests at the test center, on the Pearson VUE website or through a Pearson VUE call center, all in real time via the Internet.

"The Pearson VUE Testing System gives us unparalleled control and flexibility over our ability to manage our business our way," added James.

"With so many options, we will be able to experiment with testing hours and number of testing stations. We can easily offer same-day testing, or bring testing to our customers' locations. Everyone benefits."

The growing list of IT certification tests accessible through the Pearson VUE system are delivered directly from the test sponsors.

Test results are quickly transmitted back, ensuring the candidate's certification status is promptly updated.

Randy Trask, Pearson VUE Vice President Market Development, said, "We are proud to welcome East Central Community College to the rapidly growing global network of Pearson VUE Authorized Test Centers, providing candidates with an opportunity to participate in a positive, rewarding test experience."

Pearson VUE (www.pearsonvue.com) is the global leader in electronic testing for regulatory and certification boards, providing a full suite of services from test development to test delivery to data management.

The Integrated Technologies Training Center is a part of East Central Community College Workforce Development Center and is located at 375 Industrial Road, Building A , in the Advanced TechParc in Choctaw and may be contacted at 601-389-0832 or www.eccc.edu/workforce.

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WEEK OF 3/31

ECCC PHOTO

PIT COMBO FOR ECCC'S 'GREASE'

Members of the Pit Combo for the East Central Community College production of Grease include (from left) Thomas W. Carson of Decatur, electric guitar; Jared Brownlee of Meridian, percussion; Ryan Clarke of Decatur, bass guitar; and Natalie Emmons of Lake, director/keyboard. The musical presentation is scheduled April 3-5 in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus. Curtain call each night is set for 7 p.m. Admission is $5 per person. To purchase tickets or for more information contact the ECCC Communications Office, Phone 601-635-2111.

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WEEK OF 3/31

Scott Officials Visit ECCC

Scott County officials were luncheon guests during the March 11 meeting of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees held on the Decatur campus. The special visitors are shown with Board members from Scott County following the meal. Seated from left are county supervisors Jack Gordon (District Four), Tim Sorey (District Two), Bruce McMillan (District Five) and Buford Palmer (District Three); Myra Murrell-Davis, tax assessor; and Jackie Bradford, District One supervisor. Standing from left are trustees Rebecca Farris of Morton, Annie Stowers of Forest, Vernon Crotwell of Morton; Royce Shaw (Board Vice Chairman) of Forest; Dr. Jimmy Hollingsworth of Lake; Billy Frank Alford, chancery clerk; and trustee Frank McCurdy of Morton, Scott County Superintendent of Education. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 3/31

Former EC trustees honored

Former East Central Community College Board of Trustees members Melanie Hartley, second from left, of Carthage, and Ken Pouncey, third from left, were recently presented plaques of appreciation for their years of service. Hartley spent six years and nine months on the board while serving at Leake County Superintendent of Education. Pouncey logged three years of service, 1984-85, 1988, and 2006-07. Making the presentations were ECCC President, Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, left, and Board Chairman Prentice Copeland of Philadelphia.

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3/31

ECCC PHOTO

OFFICIALS VISIT ECCC

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WEEK OF 4/7

EC names Harris as new A.D.

from school reports

Chris Harris of Decatur was recently named to the new position of Director of Personnel Services and Athletic Director at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC president Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Harris

Harris, who has served as the College's work-based learning coordinator since 2004, will assume his new duties on July 1.

In the dual role, Harris will be responsible for all professional and staff personnel issues related to employment at the College while also being responsible for coordinating activities of the inter-collegiate sports program. He will also continue functions related to his position as work-based learning coordinator.

Harris has a lengthy resume of experience in administration and athletics. He previously served as human resource manager and assistant manager for 16 years at La-Z-Boy South, Inc. in Newton. He is also a former high school principal and guidance counselor at Newton and previously served as an assistant principal, coach, teacher and counselor at Decatur High School.

He is a member of Clarke Venable Baptist Church, where he

See Harris Page B3

Harris

From Page B1

currently serves as a deacon. He is also a member of the Decatur Lions Club and previously served as president and vice president. He is former member of Newton Rotary Club, where he also served as president and vice president.

Harris is a graduate of Decatur High School, ECCC and Mississippi State University, where he received a bachelor's degree in educational psychology and a master's degree in counseling and administration.

He is married to the former Pam Reeves of Decatur. They have three children: Kelli, 26; Krissi, 24; and Cole, 16.

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WEEK OF 4/7

ECCC To Hold Fine Arts Festival April 10

East Central Community College in Decatur will present its Annual Spring Fine Arts Festival at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 10 in the Ovid S. Vickers Fine Arts Center. There is no charge for admission and refreshments will be served.

The ECCC Concert Choir and Chamber Singers will present various selections including an "Homage to Disney," music of Alan Menken, who wrote musical scores for many of the Disney movies. Len Bobo serves as choral director. Natalie Emmons serves as accompanist.

There will also be an exhibit displaying works by East Central art and ceramic students. Bruce Guraedy, Chairman of the Division of Fine Arts, serves as art and ceramics instructor.

For more information contact Guraedy at 601-635-2111, ext. 229, or toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 229. The email address is bguraedy@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF April 14, 2008

RUSH CONTRIBUTION AIDS ECCC HEALTHCARE EDUCATION PROGRAMS: ECCC's Healthcare Education programs have received state-of-the-art instructional equipment thanks to a generous contribution from Rush Health Systems. Rush provided funds for ECCC to purchase a "SIM Man," a simulation device used to enhance clinical experiences. ECCC recently held a demonstration of the instructional equipment in the Associate Degree Nursing skills lab. Pictured left to right are Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president; Rush Health Systems representatives Scott Vincent, Donnie Smith, Nina Dusuang and David Bonner; first-year ADN students Tiffanie Credille of Union, Kemyatta Qualls of Forest and Rebecca Wilbanks of Carthage; Betsy Mann; second-year ADN student Stephanie Reeves of Preston; and nursing instructor/SIM Man operator Brenda Kirby.

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WEEK OF 4-21-08

EC's Blount joins MACJC Hall

Lamar Blount was one of two East Central Community College representatives who were inducted into the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges Sports Hall of Fame Tuesday.

Blount

Blount and Earl Marshall, as well as two representatives from both Meridian and East Mississippi community colleges, were featured in a story in the April 19 edition of *The Meridian Star* — but no photo of Mr. Blount was available for publication.

Blount starred on the school's only state championship football team and also excelled in track during his days at East Central.

The Star is proud to recognize Mr. Blount and all of the area inductees for their Hall of Fame inductions.

— from combined reports

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WEEK OF April 28, 2008

Planning EC homecoming

Already making plans for Homecoming 2008 and other activities are the above officers and board of directors of the East Central Community College Alumni Association, who recently held their spring semester meeting on the Decatur campus. The group selected Saturday, Sept. 27, as this year's homecoming date and announced that honorees include all former concert choir members and tennis players, and members of the 1998 State Champion Diamond Warrior Baseball Team. All members of classes ending in "8" will also be recognized. Alumni Association officials include (seated from left) Dayna Morgan of Philadelphia, Neshoba County representative; Cheryl Comans of Cleveland, Association vice president; Ann Burkes and Lois Cooper, both of Decatur and Newton County representatives; Carla Glenn of Madison, out-of-district representative; and Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for foundation and alumni relations; and (standing from left) ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin; James Vance of Meridian, out-of-district representative; Bob Posey of Philadelphia, Neshoba County representative; and Harvey Trapp of Newton, Association president. For more information on alumni matters contact Stacey Hollingsworth, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 327. The email address is sholling@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF April 28, 2008

Former EC standouts named to Hall of Fame

MARSHALL

BLOUNT

Two former football greats at East Central Community College in Decatur were among new members of the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges (MACJC) Sports Hall of Fame.

Earl Marshall of Hattiesburg and the late Lamar Blount of Decatur were officially be inducted along with other members of the 2008 Class during a ceremony scheduled Tuesday, April 22 at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson.

Marshall was a member of the 1954 and 1955 Warrior squads, earning All-State honors at offensive and defensive end following his sophomore season. He also served as sophomore class president.

Prior to attending then ECJC, Marshall was a three sport lettermen as a member of the football, basketball and baseball teams at Philadelphia High School.

Blount is recognized as the first athlete to receive All-American status at East Central Community College in Decatur, an honor he received in 1939 as a member of the state champion Warrior football team.

Blount began his athletic career at Philadelphia High School, excelling in football, basketball, track and baseball. He made the All-State team in football as an end. But at the beginning of his junior year he transferred to Newton County Agricultural High School so he would be eligible to play at then "ECJC" his last two years in high school. The agricultural high school was at that time a part of the College.

A fullback at EC, Blount scored 86 points his freshman year and played on the 1938 undefeated team. He scored 100 points his sophomore season and helped lead the 1939 team to an undefeated season and the College's only state championship in football. He was selected an All-State fullback following the season in addition to receiving All-American honors.

Blount died on Aug. 6, 2007, a short time following the death of his wife.

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WEEK OF May 5, 2008

Kinton retires as EC English instructor

A 20-year career in education is coming to a close for Tony Kinton of Carthage, who has served the past nine years as a faculty member at East Central Community College in Decatur. An end-of-the-year luncheon program at the college will be held Friday, May 9, in his honor.

Kinton began his employment at the college in 1999 as choral music instructor. He also served as director of the Concert Choir and Ac'cents, the college's show choir; and most recently served as a member of the English faculty. He has also served 14 years as a member of the college's adjunct faculty.

In recognition of his service to ECCC, Kinton was named Humanities Instructor of the Year in 2006, and was selected as one of the college's Lamplighters in 2003, an annual program that recognizes the state's outstanding community and junior college instructors.

A graduate of Carthage High School, Kinton attended ECCC and received a bachelor's degree in music education and a master's of applied music and English from Mississippi College. He has completed additional coursework at MC, Millsaps College, The University of Mississippi and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

He is married to the former Susan Rogers of Carthage.

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WEEK OF Mar 5 2008

Boler, Ferguson Named ECCC Instructors of the Year

Tanya Boler of Conehatta and Christy Ferguson of Philadelphia were recently named Academic and Career-Technical Instructors of the Year, respectively, at East Central Community College in Decatur.

They will be honored during the College's annual end-of-the-year faculty luncheon in May.

An English instructor, Boler has been employed at the College since 2002 and teaches English Composition I and II and American Literature I and II. She has also held similar positions at Union and Philadelphia high schools.

When notified of her selection, Boler said she was "honored and humbled" by the distinction.

She said she became a teacher because of her love of writing.

"I chose to be an English teacher because I have always loved to write and I am an obsessive reader. I wanted to somehow pass those skills on to students," Boler said.

The variety of her days is what Boler says she likes most about the field of education.

"I rarely do the same thing two days in a row. I also enjoy knowing that when I do a good job, I am making the world a little better. Someone will be a better teacher, nurse, child care provider or electrician because I have done my best to teach him or her."

A graduate of Union High School, Boler said her own instructors provided much influence on her career.

"Ms. Carol Shackelford (who now serves as chairman of the Communications Division at ECCC), Ms. Lynn Savell and Ms. Billie Freeman at Union High School gave me a wonderful foundation in English and they each encouraged me to express myself in creative writing, journalism and drama.

"I was greatly influenced by Mr. Ovid Vickers and Dr. Richard Etheridge at ECCC. They showed me just how diverse effective instruction could be.

"Dr. Greg Bentley at MSU (Mississippi State University) was the professor who most influenced my graduate studies. He showed me, by example, how to make literature classes relevant and exciting. He was probably the teacher who was most exacting and harshest in the grading of my papers during my entire college career."

Boler added that former ECCC instructor and department chairman Linda Pierce was also her "unofficial" mentor for her entire career.

"She was my student teaching supervisor, my department chair at Newton County High School and my division chair at ECCC for five years. Much of what I know about effective teaching I learned from Linda Pierce. I am quite indebted to her."

Boler has also been honored on various occasions in her career, including being named Star Teacher, the Good Apple Teacher's Award and a Lamplighter honoree, which honors outstanding community and junior college instructors. In addition, she was selected for Who's Who Among America's Teachers.

"I think the years I was honored as Star Teacer and was given the Good Apple Teacher's Award at Philadelphia High School were themost affirming years for me," Boler said. "Star Teacher is chosen by the Star Student and the Good Apple Award is chosen by the teachers. My fellow teachers and my students are the best judges of the quality of my teaching, and to be honored by the people who know what I do every day is rewarding.

"However, as a 2004 Lamplighter honoree, the three-day retreat with all the inspirational activities was just what I needed to be rejuvenated!"

Boler is a 1985 graduate of East Central Community College and received bachelor and master's degrees from Mississippi State University.

She is a member of the Mississippi Council of Teachers of English and the National Council of Teachers of English.

Boler and her husband, Ricky, have two children, Corey and Aislin.

Ferguson joined the East Central staff in 1999 and serves as a Business and Office Technology instructor. She teaches courses in medical transcription, machine transcription, microcomputer applications, desktop publishing, integrated computer applications, keyboarding and electronic spreadsheet. She previously served as an adjunct instructor for East Mississippi Community College and is a former business education teacher at Central Academy in Macon.

Upon receiving this honor, Ferguson said, "The Career Technical Division has wonderful instructors and to be selected from that group is an honor. I have never been a person to seek recognition. I have always encouraged the praise of others, so this is a humbling experience for me to receive this award."

The enjoyment of learning new technology helped push Ferguson towards a career in teaching.

"While taking a business and computer technology course in high school, I knew I wanted to work with computers and hopefully encourage others to be successful members of society. I enjoyed learning the new technology and didn't want that feeling to cease," she said.

Ferguson also enjoys the changes that come with each day in the classroom.

"Every day is different. Although you teach the same course over and over again, with technology there are so many different ways to incorporate that into the students' everyday lives.

"I also enjoy getting to know my students and see their success stories," she added.

Family members have been the most influential in Ferguson's career.

"My first job was in the same town as where my father worked," Ferguson said. "I had to travel by his place of employment in order to get to work. If I came by late, he would question me at the end of the day. I feel that he gave me a very strong work ethic, not just to do my job, but to do more than what the job requires.

"My husband and my mother were my support system during my years at college. I worked part-time, attended college and had small children. They encouraged me to continue my education.

"Since I've been working at East Central, my family continues to be very supportive."

Ferguson has also received various honors and awards during her career.

As a former advisor for Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of the two-year college, she received the Regional Horizon Award in 2003 and the Paragon Award in 2004.

"During the three years that I was a PTK advisor, not only did I receive awards, but our chapter was very successful. Their success was not because of me, but because of the hard work of the officers and members. I was just glad to be a part of their success," Ferguson said.

Ferguson also serves as a co-advisor for Phi Beta Lambda business fraternity and has had numerous students place in state and national competitions.

"Each time I attend the awards ceremony for the state and national conference I am always amazed at the leadership skills our EC students possess. I'm just glad to take part in their success also."

She was selected a Lamplighter in 2006 and has been selected for Who's Who Among America's Teachers on three occasions.

In addition, she is a member of National Business Educators Association, Mississippi Business Educators Association, Mississippi Educational Computing Association, American Technical Education Association and the Phi Beta Lambda Professional Division.

A graduate of Nanih Waiya High School, she received the associate of arts degree from East Mississippi Community College and completed bachelor and master's degrees in education from Mississippi State University.

She and her husband, Jerry, have two daughters, Leah and Nicole.

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WEEK OF May 5, 2008

Former East Central Community College football standout Earl Marshall (center) of Hattiesburg receives congratulations from ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin following Marshall's induction into the Mississippi Community and Junior College (MACJC) Sports Hall of Fame. Marshall, an all-state offensive and defensive end, was a member of the 1954 and 1955 Warrior squads. He continued his athletic career at the University of Southern Mississippi and is a member of the USM Sports Hall of Fame. At left is Joe Blount, whose late father Lamar Blount of Decatur was also inducted into the prestigious group. Lamar Blount was an All-American offensive back at East Central and helped lead the Warriors to the 1939 state championship. He continued his athletic career at Mississippi State University and helped lead the Bulldogs to the Southeastern Conference title in 1941. In addition, he was an All-Southern Conference performer at Duke University. Blount was also a member of several professional football teams. Marshall and Blount, who are both members of the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame, were among the 30 new members of the MACJC Sports Hall of Fame who were honored during the special ceremony held April 22 at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson.

ECCC photo

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WEEK OF May 12, 2008

ECCC Retirees, Instructors of the Year Honored

Retirees and Instructors of the Year for 2007-08 were honored at the end-of-the-year luncheon held May 9, 2008, at East Central Community College in Decatur. English instructor Tony Kinton (left) of Carthage is retiring after 20 years of service in education, and art instructor Bruce Guraedy (right) of Decatur is stepping down following a 33-year career on the ECCC campus, where he also served as Chairman of the Fine Arts Division. Christy Ferguson (second from left) of Philadelphia was recognized as Career-Technical Instructor of the Year and Tanya Boler of Union was named Academic Instructor of the Year. Ferguson teaches business technology courses and Boler is a member of the English faculty. Retirees were presented framed resolutions and instructors received plaques of appreciation commemorating their service to the College.

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THE PHILADELPHIAN X

WEEK OF May 19, 2002

Neshoba Officials Visit ECCC

Neshoba County officials were luncheon guests at the May meeting of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees held on the Decatur campus. The special visitors are shown with Neshoba County trustees following the meal. Seated from left are supervisors Marty Sistrunk (District 4), Obbie Riley (District 5) and Keith Lillis (District 1); Patti Duncan Lee, circuit clerk; and Harold Reynolds, District 3 supervisor. Standing from left are trustees Edsel Cliburn of Union and Ricky Goldman of Philadelphia; Wade White, Board of Supervisors attorney; Kevin Cumberland, District 2 supervisor; Mike Lewis, county tax assessor/collector; and trustees V.C. Manning and Prentice Copeland (Board Chairman), both of Philadelphia. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF May 26, 2008

ECCC

From Page 1A

previously had to purchase through independent contracts," Dr. Sutphin stated. "The response from students has been overwhelmingly favorable for this service and we are more than pleased to provide it."

Board fees will increase by either $30 or $35 depending on the type meal plan a student purchases. A five-day plan will be $740 and the seven-day meal ticket cost $890.

All other fees will remain the same.

For 2008-09, the total cost to attend ECCC for a full-time dormitory student with a five-day meal plan is $2,075 per semester. The fee for a full-time dormitory student with a seven-day meal plan is $2,225 per semester. Day students will pay $760 per semester.

Total cost for out-of-state students is $3,125 for those who purchase a five-day meal plan, and $3,275 for the seven-day meal plan.

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May 26, 2008

ECCC tuition remains at $700

Dorm students to receive cable television, wireless Internet services

Special to The Record

Most fees will remain the same in 2008-09 at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

The student fees schedule – approved at Tuesday's Board of Trustees meeting – includes $700 for tuition per semester, the same rate since 2003. Tuition for part-time students will continue to be $75 per semester hour.

"Our mission has always been to serve students and by holding down the cost of a college education we feel we are accomplishing our goal," said Dr. Sutphin, who has led the two-year institution since 2000.

Dr. Sutphin said fees for room and board will increase, however, due to increased food costs and other anticipated expenses.

A dormitory room will now cost $575 per semester, an increase of $100.

However, as an added benefit for residence hall students, Cable TV and wireless Internet services will be provided in each dorm room at no additional cost.

"We've entered into an agreement with a local company to provide these services, which students

See **ECCC**, Page 11A

WEEK OF May 26, 2008

Guraedy leaving ECCC following 33-year career

Bruce Guraedy has had only one teaching job during his long career in education, and after 33 years of service the East Central Community College art instructor is calling it quits, effective at the end of the 2007-08 term.

Guraedy said his decision to retire was not an easy one to make.

"It's a mixed emotion time," said the Decatur resident. "I'm sad but at the same time I'm glad. There are things I need to do that I didn't have time for when I was teaching. Yet I will miss the students and faculty of this institution."

Guraedy began his employment at East Central in 1975 after receiving a master's degree in art education from the University of Southern Mississippi, where he also received a bachelor's degree in art. The Forest Hill High School graduate later completed additional studies at Mississippi State University and Mississippi College.

Honors received throughout his career are extensive and include the following: Academic Instructor of the Year,1985; selection as one of 28 Mississippi artists whose works are in the Mississippi Artists Permanent Collection, Mississippi Museum of Art, 1987; recipient of the NISOD National Teaching Excellence Award, 1989; Lamplighter Award, presented to outstanding community and junior college instructors, 1992; honoree for the Mississippi Community College Fellowship Program, 1995; Who's Who Among American Teachers, 1996 and 2000; ECCC Humanities Teacher of the Year, 1996; and recipient of an S. A. Rosenbaum Earthwatch Teaching Fellowship Award to study in South Shields, England, 1996.

He is also a charter member, past president and current board member for the Mississippi Community and Junior transfer with a junior status to senior institutions."

He noted that "very few" students in the district come to East Central with a background in art instruction.

"Before I took this job, East Central had trouble transferring art credit hours to all senior institutions in this state," Guraedy recalled. "We also had articulation problems and a very limited budget. Thankfully many improvements have been made in the program, one of which is requiring students to prepare a portfolio of artwork before they transfer to senior institutions. Now very few East Central students have trouble transferring art credits to senior institutions and several have even received art portfolio scholarships."

Along with the many improvements that have occurred in the art program, Guraedy noted that his teaching methods

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Courses he has taught at East Central include Art Appreciation, Art for Teachers, Ceramics I and II, Painting I, Drawing I and II, Design I and II, Art History I and II, Beginning Painting and Inventive Crafts, and Art in Kids' College. He also established a computer graphics lab for the College's Fine Arts Division.

In addition to his teaching duties, Guraedy served as Chairman of the Division of Fine Arts and co-adviser for Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges. He has also served on various committees throughout his career.

College Art Instructors' Association and is a member of several other professional organizations.

In reflecting on his career, Guraedy said the "interaction with students and faculty" is what he will miss most.

"I've had some fun times and enjoyed most every day that I came to teach," Guraedy remarked.

What's been the biggest challenge for Guraedy during his 33 years in the classroom?

"The biggest challenge," Guraedy stated, "is having students turn out at least college sophomore grade artwork in two years so they can have also changed.

"Each group of students I've taught came in with difference thought modes," he said. "The field of art is forever changing and you have to change your teaching methodology to communicate with them."

Guraedy said the "most effective" way of teaching students for him is the one-on-one approach, "because I can address their strengths and weaknesses to help them become better artists."

He admits to "losing count" of all the "new" changes in technology regarding classroom instruction in his 33-year career but stated each "change" has its merits.

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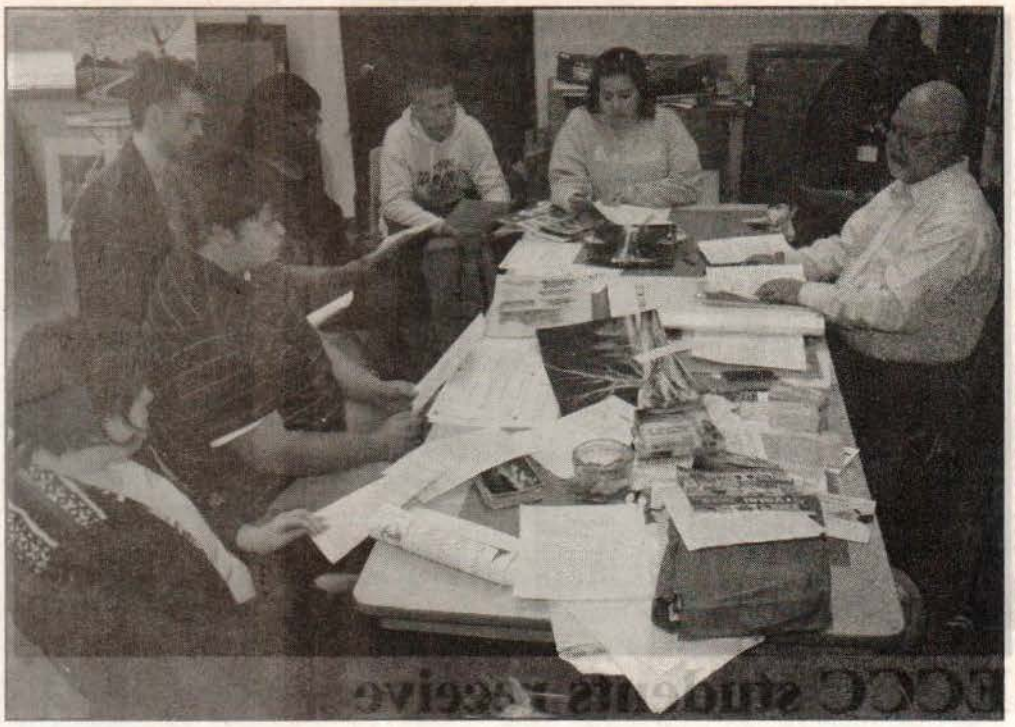

Bruce Guraedy has spent 33 years providing instruction and guidance for art students at East Central Community College in Decatur. Scenes like the one above were common for the Decatur resident who admitted having "mixed emotions" about leaving his first and only teaching job at the end of the 2007-08 term.

May 26, 2008

"However," he added, "I do not believe that any one new technology will replace a well-motivated classroom teacher."

Guraedy provided an example to prove his point.

"I recently had a student to transfer here from Texas who had taken an online computer course from a Texas university," Guraedy explained. "She enrolled in our Design II course which requires the physical use of real brushes and paint. She had trouble to begin with because in her first course the computer had done all the work and thinking for her when it came to mixing and blending colors. Students first need to learn to paint and brush on their own without utilizing a computer."

Guraedy said he knew a career in education was in his future when he was a teenager participating in Boy Scout activities.

"I taught first aid at a Boy Scout camp one summer and thoroughly enjoyed it. I knew then that I would pursue teaching as a career," he stated.

And not only did he know that teaching would be his chosen profession, Guraedy said teaching college level students would be his call.

"I had many good professors who in their own way motivated me to become like them," Guraedy recalled. "These professors opened doors in my mind that I haven't closed to this day."

And now that his teaching career is winding down, Guraedy said he is "most appreciative" to East Central Community College for hiring him to his first and only teaching job.

"There's no better place to teach than right here at EC," Guraedy stated. "The faculty and students are great."

In appreciation of the "great times" spent at East Central, Guraedy has donated to the College a collection of art works created by him and his students.

"Currently there are more than 100 art works of mine and over 200 student works in various media that were created during a 33-year span. They will be included in the East Central Permanent Art Collection, located in Burton Library. I sincerely hope that this art legacy at East Central Community College will continue for generations to come," Guraedy stated.

In looking toward his retirement, Guraedy said he hopes to spend a lot of time traveling, deer hunting, fishing and gardening. He also hopes to devote much time to his individual art skills.

He will be joined in retirement by his wife, Linda, a fifth-grade teacher completing 32 years of service with the Newton County School District.

They have a son, Jason, an engineer with T.A.C. in Austin, Texas. Jason received a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Mississippi State University. He is a 2002 graduate of ECCC and a 2000 honor graduate of Newton County High School.

Guraedy and fellow retiree Tony Kinton, a member of the English faculty, were honored at the College's end-of-the-year luncheon program scheduled on Friday, May 9.

WEEK OF June 2, 2008

Boler earns Instructor of

Tanya Boler of Conehatta was named Academic Instructor of the Year this spring at East Central Community College in Decatur.

An English instructor, Boler has been employed at the College since 2002 and teaches English Composition I and II and American Literature I and II. She has also held similar positions at Union and Philadelphia high schools.

Tanya Boler

When notified of her selection, Boler said she was "honored and humbled" by the distinction.

She said she became a teacher because of her love of writing.

"I chose to be an English teacher because I have always loved to write and I am an obsessive reader. I wanted to somehow pass those skills on to students," Boler said.

The variety of her days is what Boler says she likes most about the field of education.

"I rarely do the same thing two days in a row. I also enjoy knowing that when I do a good job, I am making the world a little better. Someone will be a better teacher, nurse, child care provider or electrician because I have done my best to teach him or her."

A graduate of Union High School, Boler said her own instructors provided much influence on her career.

"Ms. Carol Shackelford (who now serves as chairman of the Communications Division at ECCC), Ms. Lynn Savell and Ms. Billie Freeman at Union High School gave me a wonderful foundation in English and they each encouraged me to express myself in creative writing, journalism and drama.

"I was greatly influenced by Mr. Ovid Vickers and Dr. Richard Etheridge at ECCC. They showed me just how diverse effective instruction could be.

"Dr. Greg Bentley at MSU (Mississippi State University) was the pro-

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the year honors at EC

fessor who most influenced my graduate studies. He showed me, by example, how to make literature classes relevant and exciting. He was probably the teacher who was most exacting and harshest in the grading of my papers during my entire college career."

Boler added that former ECCC instructor and department chairman Linda Pierce was also her "unofficial" mentor for her entire career.

"She was my student teaching supervisor, my department chair at Newton County High School and my division chair at ECCC for five years. Much of what I know about effective teaching I learned from Linda Pierce. I am quite indebted to her."

Boler has also been honored on various occasions in her career, including being named Star Teacher, the Good Apple Teacher's Award and a Lamplighter honoree, which honors outstanding community and junior college instructors. In addition, she was selected for Who's Who Among America's Teachers.

"I think the years I was honored as Star Teacer and was given the Good Apple Teacher's Award at Philadelphia High School were themost affirming years for me," Boler said. "Star Teacher is chosen by the Star Student and the Good Apple Award is chosen by the teachers. My fellow teachers and my students are the best judges of the quality of my teaching, and to be honored by the people who know what I do every day is rewarding.

"However, as a 2004 Lamplighter honoree, the three-day retreat with all the inspirational activities was just what I needed to be rejuvenated!"

Boler is a 1985 graduate of East Central Community College and received bachelor and master's degrees from Mississippi State University.

She is a member of the Mississippi Council of Teachers of English and the National Council of Teachers of English.

Boler and her husband, Ricky, have two children, Corey and Aislin.

WEEK OF June 6, 2008

SUBMITTED PHOTO

ECCC STAFFERS HONORED

East Central Community College recently honored staff members with 20-22 years of service during the annual "Appreciation Tea" held on the Decatur campus. From left are: Fredrick Lyons of Decatur, carpentry/cabinetmaking instructor and assistant football coach, 20 years; Kathy George, also of Decatur, early childhood education instructor, 22 years; Polly Mayes of Newton, drafting and design technology instructor, 21 years; and Bubby Johnston of Forest, vice president for public information, 21 years. Also honored were Burma Weidler of Decatur, assistant to the director of financial aid, 20 years service. The annual event is sponsored by the Administration, Faculty, Staff Association (AFSA).

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WEEK OF June 16, 2008

Students face fee

■ Hikes to affect 13 of 15 junior, community colleges blamed on fuel, utility costs

By LaRaye Brown
laraye.brown@clarionledger.com

Students at many of the state's community and junior colleges will see increases in tuition, housing and meal plans this fall.

Only two of the state's 15 community and junior colleges will leave all prices unchanged.

Students at six will pay more in tuition. Tuition increases will range from $30 at Northeast Mississippi Community College to $100 at Holmes Community College.

Clark

As their public university counterparts did, community college leaders are blaming rising gasoline and utility costs for the price hikes.

Despite the increases, it's still cheaper to go to school at a community or junior college than a public university in Mississippi.

The average community and junior college tuition will rise from $796 a semester to $819. Students in the state's university system will pay an average of $2,370 a semester in the fall, up from $2,259 previously, based on tuition bumps finalized Tuesday.

Eric Clark, executive director of the

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increases

COMMUNITY COLLEGE TUITION

School	2008	2009	School	2008	2009
Coahoma	$800	$800	Meridian	$725	$765
Copiah-Lincoln	$850	$850	Mississippi Delta	$925	$925
East Central	$700	$700	Miss. Gulf Coast	$745	$790
East Mississippi	$800	$800	Northeast Miss.	$915	$945
Hinds	$830	$830	Northwest Miss.	$850	$850
Holmes	$550	$650	Pearl River	$810	$850
Itawamba	$800	$800	Southwest Miss.	$850	$850
Jones County	$794	$874			

Source: State Board for Community and Junior Colleges

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2-YEAR COLLEGES ROOM AND BOARD

Housing

	2008	2009
Cost range	$558 to $650	$626 to $735

5-day meal plan

	2008	2009
System average	$668	$707

7-day meal plan

	2008	2009
System average	$816	$866

Source: State Board for Community and Junior Colleges

Colleges: Official fears enrollment could decline

From 1A

state's two-year college board, said if enrollment dips in the fall, rising gas prices will be the likely culprit.

"We'll have some folks who choose not to enroll ... if they are having to drive 30 or 40 miles to go to school," Clark said. "I think (rising gas prices) is the problem. I don't think tuition is a problem."

In the fall, Northeast Mississippi Community College will have the highest tuition, $945 per semester. Holmes will have the lowest, $650 per semester.

In e-mailed statement, Holmes Community College President Glenn Boyce said the school increased prices to keep up with operating costs. Colleges say gas and energy increases are the costs they are most struggling to swallow.

Pearl River Community College budgeted $800,000 for gas and energy costs.

"We ran about $200,000 short," President William Lewis said. The school is raising tuition $40 a semester.

Cheryl Ragan, vice president of finance at Northeast, where tuition will increase $30 a semester, said gas costs have increased 46 percent from the previous year to $80,000 this year.

Echoing concerns about rising gas prices, Meridian Community College is increasing tuition $40 a semester.

"We didn't want to do it," President Scott Elliott said. "If you are a community college ... the last thing you want to do is increase tuition because it's a barrier to access."

The college recently shifted to a four-day week to help students save gas money, although administrative offices will continue to operate on a five-day week.

"If you are a community college ... the last thing you want to do is increase tuition because it's a barrier to access."

Meridian CC President
Scott Elliott

When the school made the shift in May, gas was selling for around $3.50 a gallon, and Elliott said he expected students commuting 30 miles round trip would save around $200 a semester.

"By going to a four-day week, we felt that the (tuition) hike would be offset for our students," Elliott said.

The school is raising its housing fee by $50 a semester, Elliott said. Nine other schools will follow suit.

Hinds Community College, which didn't raise tuition, will have the largest housing fee increase. Students there will pay an additional $300 to $425 a semester to live on campus. Dorm fees will range from $800 to $1,000 a semester.

In May, the college said it had been losing about $350,000 a semester on housing on its Raymond and Utica campuses. The school also borrowed $6.2 million to renovate dorms and build a band hall.

Meal plans in the community college system jumped between $25 and $100. Prices range from $550 for the cheapest five-day meal plan to $1,107 for the most expensive seven-day meal plan.

■

To comment on this story, call LaRaye Brown at (601) 961-7280.

WEEK OF June 16, 2008

Underwoods Honored

Former East Central Community College head football coach Terry Underwood and his wife Carrie were recently honored during a reception on the Decatur campus. Underwood resigned as head coach following the 2007 campaign and remained on staff as athletic director through the 2008 spring term. Underwood led the Warrior football program for 10 years after serving three years as an assistant coach. Carrie served as secretary to the athletic department during his tenure. The Underwoods are moving to the Hattiesburg area due to Terry's recent selection as defensive coordinator at Oak Grove High School.
(EC Photo)

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Shaw joins ECCC Board

George Shaw (center) of Philadelphia, the recently named Supt. of the Neshoba County School District, was welcomed as a new member of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees at the group's October meeting on the Decatur campus. The new trustee is shown with Board Chairman Prentice Copeland (left) and ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. Shaw, who is in his 29th year with the Neshoba County School District, has accumulated 43 years in education while serving in various capacities. He resides in the House community with his wife, Jean, and mother-in-law, Edna Ross. The Shaws have a son, Nathan, and help take care of infant grandson, Lake Sagan Shaw. The Shaws are members of Beacon Street Baptist Church. (EC Photo)

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New 'Bank' Scholarship Established at ECCC

DECATUR—The Land Banks of Mississippi/Farm Credit Bank of Texas Scholarship was recently established at East Central Community College in Decatur.

The first annual award provides a $500 scholarship for a student majoring in the areas of agriculture, forestry, business or business administration.

Recipients must also be a full-time student in good standing, or an incoming freshman, who meets the additional scholarship guidelines. The College's Scholarship Committee will select the award recipient.

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Alumni / Scholarships / Homecoming

WEEK OF July 7, 2008

DUSTAN TODD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWED AT ECCC: Ann Todd (left) of Chunky is shown presenting a check to Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for foundation and alumni relations at East Central Community College in Decatur, which completes the endowment of the Dustan Todd Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship was first established by family members in 2006 in memory of the 2004 ECCC graduate, who lost his life in an automobile/motorcycle accident on April 28, 2004. Dustan, an outstanding student in the drafting and design technology program, was a member of the Phi Theta Kappa, The International Honor Society for Two-Year Colleges, and was named to Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges. He was a 2002 graduate of Newton County High School, where he also received numerous honors. Ann, who with her husband David and their other son, Travis, established the scholarship, said contributions from family and friends along with proceeds from the annual Dustan Todd Memorial Golf Tournament made it possible to reach the required $10,000 amount for an endowment. The Dustan Todd Memorial Scholarship will be presented for the first time to a qualified graduate of Newton County High School at the 2009 AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon on the ECCC campus.

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WEEK OF July 31, 2008

Warrior Club banquet set for Aug. 14

Supporters of athletics at East Central Community College are invited to attend the first annual Warrior Club Fall Banquet scheduled Thursday, August 14 on the Decatur campus.

Activities begin with a social hour at 6 p.m. followed by a catfish and shrimp dinner at 7 p.m. in the Gold Room of Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

"The banquet is open to all alumni and friends of the College who have supported East Central athletics in the past or have pledged their support for the future," said Chris Harris, who began his new duties as athletic director on July 1.

Harris said members of the ECCC coaching staff will serve as guest speakers and will provide outlooks on their respective upcoming seasons. Information will also be presented regarding the College's athletic facilities. In addition, Warrior Club officers for 2008-09 will be chosen.

Tickets to the casual event are $20 per person. All proceeds will benefit the Warrior Club, which provides financial assistance for all ECCC sports.

To request tickets or for more information contact Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations. Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 327. The e-mail address is sholling@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF July 21, 2008

ECCC announces homecoming honorees

Decatur residents Marijo James Denson and Richard E. Mayo, A.J. Kilpatrick of Grenada and the late Jamie Clark will receive special recognition during homecoming activities scheduled Saturday, Sept. 27, at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Denson is this year's Alumna of the Year and Mayo was selected Alumnus of the Year. Kilpatrick and Clark are the newest additions to the College's Athletic Hall of Fame. Honorees are chosen by the College's Alumni Association.

Denson, a 1947 ECCC graduate, is being honored for her numerous civic and community activities and her successful career with the Motion Picture Theatre Company. She is also a longtime supporter of the College. She served as ECCC's May Queen her sophomore year.

Mayo (Class of 1955) is being honored for his 30-plus years of service with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The chemical engineer received NASA's Exceptional Service Medal in 1988 for his contributions and achievements in the various space programs. He held several administrative positions with the organization until his retirement in 1990.

Kilpatrick, a Philadelphia native, is a 1952 graduate of ECCC, where he was a two-year letterman in football and basketball. He served as East Central's athletic coordinator and head football coach from 1982-1991 and led the Warriors to the state playoffs in 1987.

Clark, who lost his brief battle with brain cancer in 2001, served as ECCC's head baseball coach from 1988 to 2001. The West Point native led the 1998 Diamond Warriors to the College's first state baseball title and a 32-22 record. He received MACJC Coach of the Year honors following the championship season.

The College's baseball stadium is named in Clark's honor.

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Buildings / Programs

WEEK OF July 28, 2008

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC CAMPUS CLEAN-UP UNDERWAY

Michael McWhirter obviously has no fear of heights as the East Central Community College maintenance worker spray washes Huff Auditorium as part of a summer clean-up effort on the Decatur campus. The clean-up project also includes dorms and other areas of the campus. David Blackledge, director of the Colleges physical plant, said that the entire maintenance and custodial staff are working diligently to present a fresh face in preparation for the upcoming fall semester. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 21.

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Faculty / Administration

WEEK OF August 11, 2008

Brady Selected As ECCC Art Instructor

FROM STAFF REPORTS

DECATUR—Christopher Brady of Ridgeland was recently selected art instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Brady previously served as adjunct art instructor at Hinds Community College and Belhaven College.

He also taught art classes while a graduate assistant at the University of Mississippi. In addition, he has experience as a web designer, webmaster, graphic artist and photographer.

Brady is recognized in the 2007 Guinness Book of World Records for constructing the longest woodblock print, which measured 281 feet.

Brady

A graduate of Forest Hill High School, Brady received a bachelor's degree in studio art from Mississippi College and earned master degrees in art education and fine arts with emphasis in printmaking at Ole Miss.

He is married to the former LeAnne Franklin of Jackson.

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WEEK OF August 11, 2008

Pinter joins EC faculty

Melanie Pinter of Philadelphia was recently selected dual enrollment practical nursing instructor at East Central Community College in Decatur.

In the new position, Pinter will teach district high school seniors who qualify for the recently implemented Dual Enrollment/Dual Credit Practical Nursing Program. Fall classes begin August 11 on the Decatur campus.

Pinter, who joined the ECCC staff on July 14, previously served as chief nurse for District VI of the Mississippi State Department of Health. She also has experience working with dialysis patients, extended care patients and as a medical aid while taking courses for her AAS.

She is married to Patrick Pinter and they have a son, Payton.

She is the daughter Pat and Martha Cleveland of Conehatta, formerly of Forest.

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WEEK OF August 18, 2008

8 in EC van wreck

By Cheryl Owens
The Newton Record

Eight staff members from East Central Community College were injured on Friday when the van they were riding in collided with another vehicle outside of Louisville.

The accident occurred when the group was returning back to Decatur from a meeting on Mayhew campus at East Mississippi Community College in Scooba.

According to East Central President Dr. Phil Sutphin the van was carrying members of the ECCC Workforce Development Staff.

"The staff was returning home around 3 p.m. when a vehicle crossed Highway 25 bypass about eight miles North of Louisville and collided with the van from behind," Sutphin said. "The investigation into the accident is still underway so we don't have the official details

See **ECCC**, Page 11A

ECCC

From Page 1A

yet but that appears to be what happened. After the van was struck it rolled and flipped over on its side."

All eight of the staff sustained injuries but none were life threatening according to Sutphin.

In a release from the said, three of the staff Joey Kenna of Forest, Roger Whitlock of Union and Lucretia Williams of Lena received the most serious injuries and were taken to the University Medical Center in Jackson and Tina Harris, Joe Barrett, Chris and Kimberly Mott all of Decatur were taken to the hospital in Louisville and were later released. The driver of the other vehicle that was in a late model pickup truck was not injured, according to reports.

"We are just so thankful their injuries were not more serious, it could have been much worse than it was," Sutphin said.

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WEEK OF August 18, 2008

ECCC staffers injured in two-vehicle wreck

Several members of the East Central Community College Workforce Development Staff were reported recovering from injuries sustained in a two-vehicle accident Friday afternoon on the Highway. 25 bypass north of Louisville.

Three staff members, Joey Kenna of Forest, Roger Whitlock of Union, and Lucretia Williams of Lena, received the most serious injuries of the eight passengers traveling in the college-owned van when it was struck by another vehicle.

The driver of the other vehicle, a late model pickup truck, was not injured, according to reports.

Kenna, transported first to a Louisville hospital, was later sent by air ambulance to the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson where he underwent successful surgery Friday night.

He was admitted into a private room Saturday night and is expected to be discharged from the hospital by mid-week.

Whitlock and Williams were first sent to a Starkville hospital and later transported to UMC by land ambulance.

Tina Harris of Decatur was first sent to a Louisville hospital and released Friday night. However, she received additional treatment at Rush Hospital in Meridian over the weekend.

Four other passengers, Joe Barrett, Chris Clark and Kimberly Mott, all of Decatur, and Joseph Knight, of Union, were treated and released at a Louisville hospital Friday night.

The staff members were returning from a meeting on the Mayhew campus of East Mississippi Community College when the accident occurred approximately eight miles north of Louisville.

-- Story courtesy of ECCC Public Relations Office

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WEEK OF August 18, 2008

EC staff recovering

By Jack Tannehill
Appeal Editor

The Winston County Journal contributed to this report.

Several members of the East Central Community College Workforce Development Staff are recovering from injuries sustained in a two-vehicle accident Friday afternoon on the Hwy. 25 bypass north of Louisville.

Three staff members – Joey Kenna of Forest, Roger Whitlock of Union and Lucretia Williams of Lena, received the most serious injuries of the eight passengers traveling in the college-owned van when it was struck by another vehicle.

The driver of the other vehicle- a late model pickup truck- was not injured, according to reports.

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Four other passengers, Joe Barrett, Chris Clark and Kimberly Mott, all of Decatur, and Joseph Knight of Union were treated and released at a Louisville hospital Friday night.

Knight and Clark were heroes

Whitlock, a former faculty member and coach at Union High School, was released from the hospital Monday. He said the entire event played out right before their eyes.

"We all saw it coming and there was absolutely nothing anybody could do about it. Joey (Kenna), who was driving, did what he could do to avoid it, but there was just no way," said Whitlock.

Whitlock, who was at home Tuesday nursing some broken ribs and bone fractures in his neck said, "The driver in the pickup was crossing the center median on the

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after near-fatal accident

highway and there was a large group of motorcyles behind us. I really think he looked and saw those motorcyles, but for some reason our van didn't register with him. When he pulled out, he was accelarating and I don't think he saw us until we hit."

"We hit really hard, left the road and rolled. There was grass, glass, metal and people flying all through that van."

"I landed on my back really hard against the door relaease and at first thought my back was broken," he said.

Whitlock termed the actions of Chris Clark and Joseph Knight 'heroic.'

"They really stepped up with the way they were able to help," he said, "Joey had a real severe cut on his arm. Joseph cut him out his seat belt and they put a tourniquet on his arm and kept him from bleeding out. I think they might have saved his life, I'm sure they saved his arm," said Whitlock.

The staff members were returning from a meeting on the Mayhew campus of East Mississippi Community College when the accident occurred, approximately eight miles north of Louisville.

An emergency worker tends to the EC van after Friday's accident. photo courtesy *The Winston County Journal*

WEEK OF August 18, 2008

ECCC Announces Athletic Additions

Another 'Coach Pouncey' Joins ECCC Football Staff

A familiar name to followers of East Central Community College athletics has joined the Warrior football coaching staff for the 2008 campaign.

Derek Pouncey, nephew of former ECCC head football coach Ken Pouncey, has joined Steve Cheatham's staff and will serve as wide receivers coach.

The younger Pouncey said following his uncle as a member of the Warrior coaching staff "is complete and total excitement."

"To be on the same field as my uncle coached for those many years is a great thrill for me," Derek stated. "It's just pretty awesome being here."

Derek said he also looks forward to talking with his uncle to and receiving advice.

"I've been told I need get out to his house and do a sit-down with him over coffee," Derek said. "I know it's coming…it's just a matter of getting the time to go out there."

Ken Pouncey led the Warrior football program from 1967-81 and won several division titles. He was inducted into the College's Athletic Hall of Fame in 2004.

Derek Pouncey's father, Ken's brother, is also a former coach.

"Dad coached a long time at Northwest Junior High School in Meridian and in Alabama. He coached football, basketball, baseball….he did it all," said the new Warrior assistant. "We're just a family full of coaches."

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Pouncey served from 2006-08 as assistant head coach, line coach and teacher at Kemper County High School.

He was offensive line coach and teacher at Meridian High School in 2005-06 and helped lead the Wildcats to the South State 5A Championship.

Pouncey served the previous year as defensive coordinator, wide receivers coach and teacher for Philadelphia Public Schools.

He is also a former athletic director and head football coach at Northwest Junior High School and was performing arts in-

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ECCC ADDITIONS

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structor at Meridian High School from 2000-03. In 2003, he was selected as a Coca Cola National Educator of Distinction.

He began his coaching career in 1998 as an assistant football coach at Kate Griffin Junior High School, when he was also named performing arts instructor at MHS.

A Meridian native, Pouncey is a 1993 graduate of West Lauderdale High School and received a bachelor's degree in psychology from Mississippi College in 1998.

His parents are Curt and Cynthia Pouncey of Meridian.

Chaney Selected ECCC Athletic Advisor/Assistant Coach

Kristin D. Chaney of Little Rock was recently selected as athletic advisor/assistant coach at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, College president.

In the new position, Chaney serves as academic advisor to student-athletes and will be an assistant coach on the Lady Warrior basketball and fast-pitch softball teams led by Bill Smith and Scott Hill, respectively.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Chaney attended the University of Southern Mississippi, where she received master and bachelor's degrees in sports administration in 2008 and 2007, respectively. She was also a standout member of the Lady Eagle basketball team, receiving most valuable player honors following the 2005-06 and 2006-07 seasons. In addition, she received the Female Student of the Year and Lady Eagle Award in 2006-07. She was also a member of the 2007-08 Lady Eagle softball team.

Chaney is a 2005 honor graduate of ECCC and Hall of Fame member. She is recognized as the College's only two-sport All-American and was selected a National Junior College Athletic Association Academic All-American. She finished second in the NJCAA Female Athlete of the Year competition.

Chaney helped lead the 2003-04 Lady Warrior basketball team to the Region 23, Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges (MACJC) State and South Division titles and a second-place finish in the Consolation Bracket of the NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship in Salina, Kansas. The Lady Warriors, led by former head coach Brad Hodge, completed season action with a 31-4 record and were ranked eighth in the final NJCAA poll. Chaney was named to the All-Region 23 Tournament Team and received first-team All-State recognition. She also received ECCC's "Newcomer of-the-Year" award.

The 2004-05 squad claimed runner-up honors in the Region 23 Tournament and finished 20-10 under Coach Hodge. Chaney's honors included second team All-American, All-Region 23, All-Region 23 Tournament Team, first team All-State and All-Star. In addition, she was chosen the Lady Warriors' most valuable player and was selected team co-captain.

Chaney helped lead the 2004-05 fast-pitch softball team to the MACJC Central Division title and a third-place finish in the MACJC/Region 23 Tournament en route to a record 34 wins and only five losses. She received All-Region 23 and first team All-State and All-Central Division honors following the record-setting campaign. In addition, she received the Lady Diamond Warriors' most valuable offensive and defensive player awards.

She also had success leading the softball squad during her freshman season in 2003-04. East Central finished 26-14 after claiming the MACJC Central Division title and advancing to post-season play. She was one of only three freshmen and the only Mississippian selected second team All-American following the successful season. She also received All-Region 23, All-State and All-Central Division honors in addition to her selection as the Lady Warriors' most valuable player.

A graduate of Newton County High School, she is the daughter of Ricky and Brenda Chaney of Little Rock.

WEEK OF August 25, 2008

Thomas selected ECCC associate degree nursing instructor

From press reports

Denita K. Thomas of Noxapater has joined the Associate Degree Nursing faculty at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Prior to her selection, Thomas served as family nurse practitioner at Neshoba Pediatric Medical Clinic in Philadelphia. She is also a former director of nursing for Louisville Group Homes-Hudspeth Center and served as a home health nurse for Magna Home Health in Philadelphia.

She holds membership in several professional organizations, including Mississippi Nurses Association, American Nurses Association, Pulmonary Hypertension Association and the Gamma Lambda Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing. She is a lifetime member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.

Thomas

Thomas is a 1990 graduate of Noxapater High School where she was selected class valedictorian. She received an associate's degree in nursing from ECCC in 1996 and served as president of the College's ASNEC (Association of Student Nurses) chapter in 1995-96.

She earned bachelor and master's degrees in nursing from the University of Southern Mississippi in 2003 and 2007, respectively.

She is married to John A. Thomas and they have a daughter, Alexandria, and a son, Adam.

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WEEK OF August 25, 2008

Phillips-Odom Hired At ECCC

Phillips-Odom

Gennie Phillips-Odom of Forest was recently named publications coordinator at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

In the new position, Phillips-Odom will be responsible for supervising production of The Tom-Tom student newspaper and The Wo-He-Lo yearbook. She will also provide assistance in the Office of Public Information.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, she served as editor of *The Demopolis Times*, a daily newspaper in west Alabama. She recently received various honors including several first-place awards in the Alabama Associated Press Managing Editors Journalism Contest for 2007.

Phillips-Odom is a former managing editor of *The Scott County Times* in Forest, where she served as a staff writer, assistant editor and managing editor during her five-year tenure.She is a graduate of Forest High School, where she served as editor of The Rambler yearbook. She served as yearbook co-editor while enrolled at Jones County Junior College and received a bachelor's degree in journalism at the University of Southern Mississippi.

She is married to Allen Odom and is the daughter of David and Glenda Phillips of Forest.

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WEEK OF 9-01-08

Neshoba Instructors On ECCC Adjunct Faculty

These instructors from Neshoba County are serving as adjunct faculty members for 2008-09 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Seated from left are Brenda Nowell (history), Kim Edwards (sociology) and Jennifer Murrell (accounting), and (standing from left) Katie Mills (legal environment of business), Julia Cole (study skills/reading) and Janet Allen (nutrition), all of Philadelphia. They are shown following an information session held for all the College's part-time instructors prior to fall classes getting underway. The annual workshop is coordinated by the Office of Adult and Continuing Education. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 9-1-08

Livingston honored for ECCC service

Randal Livingston (center) of Louisville was recently recognized for his 20 years service as a member of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees. Livingston was among ECCC trustees who were honored at the 2008 Mississippi Community and Junior College Trustees' Association Conference held in Biloxi. Livingston, one of six trustees representing Winston County, is shown with ECCC Board Chairman Prentice Copeland (left) of Philadelphia and Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, College president, following the ECCC trustees' August meeting on the Decatur campus. Copeland was recognized for his 40 years of service and was elected treasurer of the state trustees' association.

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WEEK OF 9-01-08

Chaney joins ECCC as Athletic Advisor/Assistant Coach

Kristin D. Chaney of Little Rock was recently selected as athletic advisor/assistant coach at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, College president.

In the new position, Chaney serves as academic advisor to student-athletes and will be an assistant coach on the Lady Warrior basketball and fast-pitch softball teams led by Bill Smith and Scott Hill, respectively.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Chaney attended the University of Southern Mississippi, where she received master and bachelor's degrees in sports administration in 2008 and 2007, respectively. She was also a standout member of the Lady Eagle basketball team, receiving most valuable player honors following the 2005-06 and 2006-07 seasons. In addition, she received the Female Student of the Year and Lady Eagle Award in 2006-07. She was also a member of the 2007-08 Lady Eagle softball team.

Chaney is a 2005 honor graduate of ECCC and Hall of Fame member. She is recognized as the College's only two-sport All-American and was selected a National Junior College Athletic Association Academic All-American. She finished second in the NJCAA Female Athlete of the Year competition.

Chaney

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The 2004-05 squad claimed runner-up honors in the Region 23 Tournament and finished 20-10 under Coach Hodge. Chaney's honors included second team All-American, All-Region 23, All-Region 23 Tournament Team, first team All-State and All-Star. In addition, she was chosen the Lady Warriors' most valuable player and was selected team co-captain.

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WEEK OF 9-01-08

IN DECATUR

Walton joins ECCC Athletic Department Staff

Walton

Amanda Walton of Lake was recently named secretary to the athletic director at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. Walton previously served as secretary to the dean of Adult and Continuing Education.

She served seven years as customer service representative at Community Bank in Forest prior to joining the ECCC staff in October 2007.

A graduate of Lake High School, Walton holds an Associate in Arts degree from ECCC and a Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies from Mississippi State University, Meridian campus.

She is currently pursuing a Master of Arts in Community College Leadership from MSU-Meridian.

She is married to Rodney Walton and they have a daughter, Madalyn.

They attend Pine Ridge Baptist Church in Lawrence.

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WEEK OF 9-08-08

Scott Instructors On ECCC Adjunct Faculty

These instructors from Scott County are serving as adjunct faculty members for 2008-09 at East Central Community College in Decatur. From left are Tami Phillips (English) of Forest, former Scott County resident Tyler McCaughn (legal environment of business) of Newton and Bonnie Peagler (English) of Sandhill. They are shown following an information session held for all the College's part-time instructors prior to fall classes getting underway. The annual workshop is coordinated by the Office of Adult and Continuing Education. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 9.08.08

ECCC Warrior Club Plans Tailgating Activities for Hinds Games

Members of the East Central Community College Warrior Club and prospective members are invited to participate in tailgating activities prior to East Central's football game with Hinds Community College Thursday night in Decatur.

Activities are scheduled from 5 to 6:30 p.m. near the entrance to Bailey Stadium. Food and refreshments will be provided and one lucky Warrior Club member will win a La-Z-Boy leather recliner.

The Warrior Club is the official fund-raising organization for ECCC's athletic teams.

Kickoff for the MACJC South Division opener for both teams is set for 6:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium.

For more information contact Chris Harris, athletic director, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 305 or 401. The email address is charris@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF 9-08-08

ECCC Gospel Choir Plans Reunion Concert

Former East Central Community College Gospel Choir members are invited to participate in a 20th anniversary concert scheduled Sunday, Oct. 5 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus.

A mandatory rehearsal prior to the concert will be held at the same location beginning at 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 4.

The event is being held in recognition of Brenda K. Johnson's 20 years of service as gospel choir sponsor.

For more information contact Mrs. Johnson, (601) 683-6383 or Kathy Smith Sanders, (601) 635-6215.

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WEEK OF 9-15-08

AREA INSTRUCTORS ON ECCC ADJUNCT FACULTY: These instructors from Newton County are serving as adjunct faculty members for 2008-09 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Seated from left are Sue Kelly (computer technology) of Lawrence, Renee Boggan (mathematics) of Hickory, Lisa Addy (criminal justice and history) and Tonya Nowell (psychology), both of Decatur. Standing from left are Scott Vaughn (Bible) of Decatur, Larry Gressett (psychology) of Conehatta, George Alexander (biology) of Little Rock, Tyler McCaughn (legal environment of business) of Newton and Patsy Barnett (accounting) of Decatur. They are shown following an information session held for all the College's part-time instructors prior to fall classes getting underway. The annual workshop is coordinated by the Office of Adult and Continuing Education.

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Board / Officials

WEEK OF 9-15-08

IN DECATUR

LOIS COOPER/SPECIAL TO THE RECORD

Planning for chamber banquet

Greater Decatur Chamber of Commerce Banquet Committee members are pictured working on final plans for the upcoming Chamber Banquet scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 18, at 6 p.m. in the Mabry Memorial Cafeteria at East Central Community College. Committee members making final plans for the event are from left: Louise Johnson, Dr. Phil Sutphin, Jan Addy, Louise Bailey, and Marijo Denson. Tim Johnson of Madison, MS, an Elvis impersonator, will be the guest entertainment. President Jan Addy said that the tickets will go sale in the very near future. Tickets may be purchased from any Chamber Board member.

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WEEK OF 9-15-08

Clark to be inducted into ECCC

from school reports

Former Diamond Warrior head coach Jamie Clark will become one of the newest members of the East Central Community College Athletic Hall of Fame when induction ceremonies are held during homecoming activities Saturday, Sept. 27, on the Decatur campus.

Jamie Clark

Serving as ECCC's baseball coach, was a "dream job" to the late Clark, according to his widow, Audrey Clark Hastey, who lives in Austin, Texas.

Clark's "dream job" resulted in a "dream season" in 1998 as he led the Diamond Warriors to their first state championship en route to a 32-22 record. Clark was named "MACJC Baseball Coach of the Year" following the campaign.

Clark, who began his tenure in 1988, led the ECCC baseball program through 2001, amassing an overall 365-301-1 record. His first Diamond Warrior squad went 17-25, then came 11 straight non-losing seasons (the 1991 team finished at 20-20). The most season wins came in 1997, when the Diamond Warriors — led by current major leaguer Marcus Thames of the Detroit Tigers — collected 40 victories and finished state runners-up.

Regarding her late husband's selection to the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame, Audrey said, "Jamie would be so grateful and proud to be included in the Athletic Hall of Fame ... but he would make sure that this prestigious recognition would be shared by those who played for him. This is so wonderfully deserving ... my feelings, as well as our kids' feelings, are so overwhelming and emotional concerning this honor."

Audrey said coaching at ECCC "was not just a job to Jamie; it was his life living out his dream. He loved coaching baseball at East Central and loved being a part of the ECCC family."

Audrey, a fourth-grade teacher in Austin, said Jamie touched lives on and off the field.

"Jamie was an amazing coach on the field but also an amazing leader off the field," she said. "I feel those who played for him left East Central a much better person. He often said that his successes were the successes of those who played for him."

She added, "Jamie began a respectable baseball program at East Central and I'm sure he is looking down smiling at Neal (Holliman) and all the improvements being made (with the baseball program). Jamie lived his life with dignity and honor, and I am so blessed that he shared his life with me. I know he will always be remembered and that his legacy will live on through those whose lives were touched by him."

Holliman, who led ECCC to the 2007 state title in his first year as head coach, served as one of Jamie's assistants during the 1998 season.

He said of his former coach: "Jamie was a unique individual. He was very serious and passionate about what he did, but was also able to keep a sense of humor about him that was great. I truly miss him and owe him a lot for what he has taught me."

Holliman said he learned more than just baseball from

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9-15-08

Athletic Hall of Fame

Coach Clark.

"He taught me more than just coaching; he taught me how to treat people and that there were more to athletics than winning and losing. Although Jamie was very focused on winning and it was very important to him, he was also concerned with developing young men," Holliman stated. "He was simply a very honest and simple man. He was and always will be a part of my life. I truly feel part of my drive to continually build this program is because I know the effort and passion he poured into this program."

Added current ECCC head softball coach Scott Hill, a member of Clark's 1989 Diamond Warrior squad:

"He was extremely passionate about his job and left a lasting impression upon so many individuals that had a chance to be around him. He was a mentor to me as well as many others that attended East Central and played for him," Hill said. "Coach Clark accepted a great responsibility in bringing the Warrior baseball program to respectability. He definitely achieved this by his record and through the many post-season appearances."

One aspiring goal that Clark was unable to achieve was winning a Region 23 title, although his teams appeared in five region tournaments. He was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor prior to the 2001 season and lost his battle to cancer at age 49 later that year on July 18. The Diamond Warrior stadium was named in his honor the following year. Clark's jersey was also retired and is prominently displayed in the lobby of the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. A replica of the jersey is displayed on the right field fence at Clark Stadium.

Sportswriter Marty Stamper, in an article following Clark's death, quoted his friend's explanation for not capturing a Region crown.

"We're just two players away…," Stamper said Clark told him on several occasions, and following a long pause gave the following answer: "Babe Ruth and Cy Young!"

Stamper also noted in his article that coaching "was only a small part" of Clark's legacy, as indicated by the number of former Diamond Warriors who selected coaching as a career.

WEEK OF 7-22-08

IN DECATUR

MAKE FINAL PLANS FOR ECCC HOMECOMING: Wrapping up plans for East Central Community College's Homecoming 2008 scheduled Saturday, Sept. 27, are the above members of the College's Alumni Association Board of Directors and officers who recently met on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, homecoming chairperson and ECCC's vice president for instruction; Florence Harkins Henley of Starkville, immediate past alumni association president and out-of-district representative; Harvey Trapp of Newton, alumni association president; Newton County representatives Lois Blount Cooper and Ann Hunter Burkes, both of Decatur; and Stacey Hollingsworth, ECCC executive director for foundation and alumni relations. Standing from left are ECCC officials Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, College president and Joe Killens, vice president for student services; Paul Chamblee of Carthage, Leake County representative; Dow Thomas of Louisville, Winston County representative; Dr. Bob Tom Johnson of Forest, Scott County representative; Bob Posey of Philadelphia, Neshoba County representative; and Scott County representatives Bill Freeman and Matt Alford, both of Forest. For more information on Homecoming activities contact Stacey Hollingsworth, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-2111, ext. 327. The e-mail address is shillings@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF 9-22-08

East Central Community College HOMECOMING '08 '80 Years of Memories'

SEPTEMBER 27, 2008

Schedule of Events

7:30 a.m.	**Homecoming 5K Run and 5K Walk**-North Campus (Registration begins at 6:30 a.m.)
8:30 to 11:30 a.m.	**Bookstore Open**-Eddie M. Smith Student Union
9 a.m.	**Homecoming Registration Begins**-East Mall Patio near Mabry Memorial Cafeteria
	Refreshments Available on the East Mall
9 a.m. to 11 a.m.	**Memorabilia Room Open**-Burton Library
10 a.m.	**Reunion Groups Meet**
	Former Tennis Team Members, Newton Hall, Room 60
	1998 State Championship Baseball Team, Newton Hall, Room 92
	Class of 1938, Huff Auditorium, First Floor
	Class of 1948, Vickers Fine Arts Center, Room 538
	Class of 1958, Vickers Fine Arts Center, Auditorium
	Class of 1968, Vickers Fine Arts Center, Room 534
	Class of 1978, Vickers Fine Arts Center, Room 506
	Class of 1988, Vickers Fine Arts Center, Room 507
	Class of 1998, Newton Hall, Room 90
	Classes of 1957 and 1959, Vickers Fine Arts Center, Auditorium
10:30 a.m.	**Awarding of 50th Anniversary Diplomas to Class of 1958** Vickers Fine Arts Center, Auditorium
11 a.m.	**Homecoming Honorees' Meeting**-Mabry Memorial Cafeteria, Gordon Room
	Warrior Club Annual Meeting-Newton Hall, Room 60 *(All former athletes and current supporters of athletics at East Central)*
Noon	**Alumni Luncheon**-Mabry Memorial Cafeteria
2:30 p.m.	**Football Game**-ECCC vs. Southwest
	Halftime Presentation of the Queen and Court
	Performance by the Wall O' Sound Marching Band

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EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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Alumna of the Year
Marijo James Denson
Decatur
Class of '47

Alumnus of the Year
Richard E. "Dick" Mayo
Decatur
Class of '55

Athletic Hall of Fame
A.J. Kilpatrick
Grenada
Class of '52

Athletic Hall of Fame
Jamie Clark
(Posthumously)

Members of the 2008 Homecoming Court and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) sophomore maids Candi Vance and Joy Hayes, both of Newton County; queen Emily Thrash, Sebastopol; maid-of-honor Briana Edison, Collins; and sophomore maid Becky Culpepper, Scott Central; and (back row, from left) freshman maids Hannah Watkins, Sebastopol; Savanna Smith, Newton County; Bailey Brown, East Rankin Academy; and Kayla Hampton, Nanih Waiya.

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WEEK OF 9-22-08

Mayo, Denson are EC's alumni

Richard L. "Dick" Mayo retired from NASA Johnson Space Center (JSC) in 1990 after more than 33 years of federal service. He continued to work as a space industry consultant with Eagle Engineering and later Muniz Engineering for another 12 years before retiring in 2002.

He began his career with the NASA Langley Research Center in Hampton, Va., and was then selected in 1962 as Subsystem Manager responsible for developing the Environmental Control Subsystem (life support) for the Apollo Lunar Module at Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas.

A few years later, he was selected to lead a group of engineers and technicians assigned to the Kennedy Space Center in Florida who maintained and prepared the space suits and backpacks for the first six manned launches of the Apollo Program.

From 1970 to 1972, Mayo served as Special Assistant to the Chief, Crew Systems Division and directed efforts to extend the capability of the Apollo EMU for increased lunar exploration time.

Between 1975 and 1979, Mayo served as Chief of the Johnson Space Center Engineering Division and managed the Construction of Facilities Program.

"I was responsible for the design, construction and maintenance of all facilities at JSC (Johnson Space Center), the White Sands Test Facility in New Mexico, and the contractor operated facilities where the Shuttle was built in Downey, Calif., and Palmdale, Calif. Several technical facilities were constructed during my tenure including the Lunar Curatorial Facility where the rocks returned from the lunar surface are stored," he said.

From 1979 to 1981 he served as Executive Assistant to the Director of Engineering and was technical advisor/chief of staff responsible for assisting the director in the overall management of engineering and technical support for the development of new space vehicles and technology.

Richard L. "Dick" Mayo

Marijo James Denson

As Deputy Chief, Crew and Thermal Systems Division, from 1981 to 1987, Mayo was responsible for all division testing activities.

His last assignments at NASA were as Director of the European Programs Division of the Space Station Freedom Program Office in Reston, VA, and later as Assistant Director for Space Station in the Engineering and Development Directorate at Johnson Space Center.

During his tenure, he received various awards from NASA including the Exceptional Service Medal in 1988.

He currently serves as president of the Decatur Chapter of Lions Club International and is an active member of Clarke-Venable Baptist Church in Decatur.

He and his wife, Betty, also a 1955 ECJC graduate, have two sons.

Marijo James Denson currently serves on the Board of the Mississippi Regional Housing Authority #5 and serves as vice president of commissioners of the Southeastern Regional Conference for Housing and Redevelopment, an organi-

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Continued from previous page

of the year

zation covering 10 states. In addition.

"We're very fortunate in our area that we have an excellent housing authority. There are 11 counties in this district and we have the only living facilities for the elderly in the state of Mississippi-one in Newton, one in Union and one in Carthage-and the residents love it, because it gives them a sense of independence," said Denson.

Denson has spent the majority of her career as a member and officer of the Motion Picture Theater Company with operations in Alabama, Louisiana, Florida and Mississippi.

Denson is also a member of the National Association of Theater Owners of America and served on the Board and as Master of Ceremonies for a meeting in New York

She serves as secretary of the Mississippi Prison Industries Board, an organization that teaches work skills to inmates so they may become productive members of society upon their release.

Denson is a lifetime member of the ECCC Alumni Association and the University of Mississippi Alumni Association. She is a member and past president of the Greater Decatur Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, Newton County Republican Women and Mississippi Republican Women.

Denson is a member of Trinity Episcopal Church in Newton, where she plays the organ.

She is married to Burl Hamrick Denson and they have a daughter, Allyson Denson of Greenville.

WEEK OF 9-29-08

ECCC Alumni Board of Directors

New members of the East Central Community College Alumni Association Board of Directors were welcomed at the annual fall meeting held on the Decatur campus. Second from left are Dow Thomas ('96) of Louisville, and Matt Alford ('89) and Bill Freeman ('89), both of Forest. They are shown with ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for foundation and alumni relations. Plans for Homecoming 2008 and fundraising efforts to renovate Founders' Gym were among topics of discussion.

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WEEK OF 7-29-08

IN DECATUR

BOLER SPEAKS TO RETIRED EDUCATION PERSONNEL: Ovid Vickers, left, president of Newton County Retired Education Personnel, is pictured with Tanya Boler, English Instructor at East Central Community College, who was the guest speaker at the September meeting of the NCREP. Boler discussed the many ways that technology is used in the class room. She discussed how it is used in recording grades, keeping up with absentees, testing, posting assignments, on-line courses and many other ways that it is being used today. A large crowd was on hand to hear Boler speak. The NCREP meets the third Thursday of each month. Vickers invites all retirees who have been involved in education in any capacity to join the group for the monthly meeting. The group meets in the ECCC cafeteria.

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WEEK OF 10.6.08

ECCC Alumni Observing 40th Class Reunion

These 1968 class members at East Central Community College attended their 40th class reunion held during homecoming activities Sept. 27 on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Cornelia Wright Grimes of Carthage, Burnette Wolf Hamil of Sebastopol, Claudette Wolf Tucker of Morton, Sandy Puckett Keenan of Rose Hill and Sandra Dickerson Amis of Conehatta. Standing from left are Billy Ganann of Collinsville, Grady Jackson of Sturgis, James Cockerham and Ed Dickerson, both of Union; Fred Hollingsworth of Kenner, La., Bill Faulkner of Morton and Dr. John Gipson of Newton. Members of all classes ending in "8" were groups honored at this year's celebration. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 10-13-08

East Central sets beauty pageant

Four area residents will be among 32 East Central Community College students who will vie for the title of Most Beautiful 2008 in the annual Beauty Pageant.

Themed "Hooray for Hollywood," the pageant is slated for 6 p.m., Monday, Oct. 20 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus.

Vying for the title of Most Beautiful are Wendy Cater, Katie Hedrick and Hannah Watkins, all of Sebastopol; and Valerie McMurry of Edinburg.

The event will host entertainment by EC instructor and award-winning music composer/performer Natalie Emmons, and first runner-up to Miss Mississippi 2008 and Miss Mid-South Ashley Buckman.

Buckman, a member of EC's Hall of Fame and former EC Most Beautiful, will also serve as mistress of ceremony.

State Sen. Terry C. Burton will orchestrate the night's events as master of ceremony.

EC's Most Beautiful 2008 and four EC Beauties will be chosen based on interview and evening gown competition.

EC's Most Handsome 2008 will be selected by the judges from beaus previously selected by the student body.

The event is free to EC students and faculty with identification and is $5 to the general public.

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WEEK OF 10/3-08

ECCC ADJUNCT FACULTY

SUBMITTED PHOTO

These instructors from Lauderdale County are serving as adjunct faculty members for 2008-09 at East Central Community College in Decatur: Seated, from left, are Rosanne Nunnery (psychology) and Eileen Nieves (psychology); and standing, from left, Dr. Bob Schwanebeck (religion), Marilyn Brown (mathematics) and Lamar Neal (government), all of Meridian. They are shown following an information session held for all the college's part-time instructors prior to fall classes getting underway. The annual workshop is coordinated by the Office of Adult and Continuing Education.

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WEEK OF 10-13-08

ECCC WORKFORCE STAFF MEMBERS REUNITE FOLLOWING ACCIDENT: For the first time since their August 15 accident, members of East Central Community College's Workforce Development staff were reunited and honored with a reception at the Workforce Center on Sept 29. Seated from left are Tina Harris of Decatur, basic skills specialist; Lucretia Williams of Lena, personal development specialist; and Kimberly Mott of Decatur, marketing specialist. Standing from left are Joseph Knight of Union, advanced skills coordinator; Chris Clark and Joe Barrett, workforce development coordinators, both of Decatur; Joey Kenna of Forest, community development coordinator; and Roger Whitlock of Union, dean. Several of the accident victims continue to receive treatment for their respective injuries, and Kenna underwent a third surgery on his left arm Oct. 3. Williams is scheduled for additional facial surgery.

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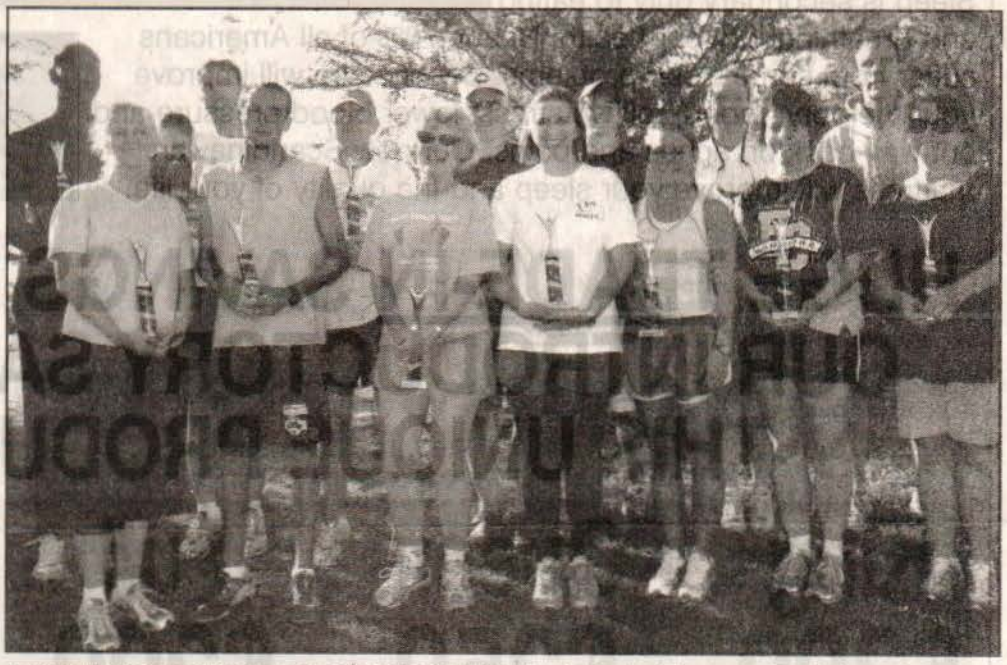
WEEK OF 10·13·08

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE



ECCC HOMECOMING 5K RUN WINNERS: East Central Community College in Decatur hosted a 5K Run/Walk as part of its homecoming festivities Saturday, Sept. 27. The race boasted 71 participants. The overall female winner was Kim Crenshaw of Meridian with a time of 25:23 minutes. Mike Thrailkill of Hickory was the overall male winner with a time of 18:33 minutes. First-place division winners in their respective age groups are, front row from left, Dixie Rivers of Oxford, Ala., Jeff Grimshel of Vicksburg, Huel Sills of Vicksburg, Emily Baysinger of Philadelphia, Crenshaw and Roxanna McCarty of Philadelphia; back row from left, Lee Wilson of Meridian, Thrailkill, Buddy Pierce of Meridian, James Shaidnagle of Newton, Andrew Hanna of Union, Janice Crawford Collins of Meridian and Shannon McMullan of Decatur. First place division winners not pictured are Emily Franklin of Union, Lori McMullan of Decatur, Judy Crowson of Meridian, Neal Holliman and Joe Killens, both of Decatur.

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WEEK OF 10-13-08

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC CLASS OF '98 REUNION PARTICIPANTS

East Central Community College's Class of 1998 held its 10-year reunion during homecoming activities Sept. 27 on the Decatur campus. Representing the class were (from left) Krisan Risher Williams of Sebastopol, and Justin Miles and Adria Stamper Miles of Geismar, La. All members of classes ending in "8" were among groups honored at this year's celebration.

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WEEK OF 10-20-08

Emmons Featured in ECCC Humanities Program

East Central Community College music instructor Natalie Emmons will present a concert of original work Thursday, Oct. 30 in recognition of her selection as the College's Humanities Instructor of the Year. The special program is sponsored by the Mississippi Humanities Council and is held in conjunction with the annual Arts and Humanities Month celebration.

Emmons' presentation, "Honoring Those Who Serve," begins at 7 p.m. in the Vickers Fine Arts Center auditorium on the Decatur campus. A reception in the Fine Arts Center lobby follows her performance.

Emmons, a Lake resident, is an award-winning vocalist and composer. She won the National Quartet Convention Talent Search in 1990 and 2001 and is recognized as the competition's only two-time award recipient. She has recorded three solo projects, two of which were produced by a major label – Son Sound Records of Gastonia, N. C. She signed a writer's contract with Heartland Records in March 2007. As of date, she has had more than 30 original songs published, six of which were recorded by major artists and two songs made the national charts.

Her music has also played a role in several statewide political campaigns. The "Mississippi" song, written specifically for Lt. Gov. Phil Bryant, was often used as the theme song of his campaign. She also composed the "Haley Barbour Song," which was especially written for Gov. Barbour and was used during his 2007campaign. In January 2008, Emmons performed the national anthem at Gov. Barbour's inauguration ceremony and during the Mississippi Republican State Convention in May 2008.

Emmons also serves as music director at Salem Baptist Church in Lake and her originally compositions are often used for special services and other church events. Her most recent project involved co-writing a Christmas drama/musical with her sister, Nicole Smith, which will be performed by their church choir in December.

A home-schooled student, Emmons attended ECCC from 2000-02, where she served as Concert Choir president and was secretary of the President's Council. She continued her education at Mississippi College, receiving bachelor and master's degrees in music with emphasis in piano performance. While at MC, she received the Mary Nelson Piano Award in 2003 and 2004 and was Mississippi Music Teachers' Association Student of the Year in 2003. She accompanied the Mississippi College Chorale, directed by Dr. Jamie Meaders, and served as a graduate assistant in 2005-06 and 2006-07.

She is married to Joey Emmons and has a daughter, Tallie Johnston, age 10.

Emmons is the daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Larry Duncan, also of Lake.

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SUTPHIN NAMED CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

At the annual Greater Decatur Chamber of Commerce Banquet, Dr. Phil Sutphin, second from left, was named the 2008 Citizen of the Year. Pictured with the honoree are from left: Brenda Harper, incoming president; Sutphin; Jan Addy, outgoing president; Mary Cullum, first vice president; and Randy Rushing, second vice president. Sutphin is president of East Central Community College and was recognized for his many outstanding contributions to the Decatur community. Dr. Esther Smith is secretary-treasurer.

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WEEK OF 10·20·08

ECCC hosts District Choral Festival

From Press Reports

Approximately 350 area high school students will showcase their vocal talents when the annual District High School Choral Festival is held Thursday, Oct. 23, 2008, at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Sponsored by the College's choral music department, the event is highlighted by a 1:30 p.m. mass concert scheduled in Huff Auditorium. John Flanery, assistant director of choral activities at the University of Southern Mississippi, will serve as guest conductor. Selections to be performed include "I'll Make a Difference," by Moses Hogan, "We Sing on Golden Mornings" by Neil Ginsberg, and "My Heart's In the Highlands," by Donna Schultz.

A record number of students representing Noxapater, Nanih Waiya, Scott Central, Neshoba Central, Union, Newton County and Morton schools are scheduled to participate in the day's activities, which begin at 9 a.m., according to East Central music instructor Vicki Blaylock who serves as event coordinator.

"We are very pleased with the record number of students who plan to participate in this year's choral festival and expect additional schools to attend as well," said Blaylock, who also directs the ECCC Concert Choir and the Ac'cents show choir. "We are looking forward to a great concert and invite the public to come see for themselves the excellent vocal talents we have in our area schools."

There is no charge for admission to the concert.

For more information contact Vicki Blaylock at ECCC, 601.635.2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 225. The e-mail address is vblaylock@eccc.edu.

ECCC serves Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties.

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WEEK OF 10·20·08

ECCC Alumni attend 50th reunion

Reunited for their 50th class reunion are the above East Central Community College alumni who received special recognition during homecoming activities held Sept. 27 on the Decatur campus. Class members received "Golden Anniversary" diplomas from ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin during a ceremony in the Vickers Fine Arts Center auditorium. First row, from left, are Jackie White Harmon, Northport, Ala.; Emily Shields Beaver, Falls Church, Va.; Ann Snuggs Jennings, Germantown, Tenn.; Nancy Peterson Haggard, Clinton; Carol Farrish Vickers and Glenda Hollingsworth Davis, both of Decatur; Hallie Jean Frazier Blalock, Tuscaloosa, Ala.; Margaret Evans Wilkerson, Madison; Carolyn Marshall McCraney, Chatsworth, Ga.; and Elsie Johnson Hollingsworth, Commerce, Ga.; Second row, from left, are Jeanette Beevers Thrash, Decatur; Jimmy Rea, Brandon; Kenneth Dunagin, Decatur; Larry Adcock, Lanett, Ala.; Dr. Milton Matthews, Pearl; and Burnard McCraney, Chatsworth, Ga. Back row, from left, are James McKay, Louisville; Joe Vowell, McCool; John Hollingsworth, Commerce, Ga.; Bob Massey, Savannah, Ga.; Clyde Millis, Panama City, Fla.; and Jim Kelly, Metairie, La.

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WEEK OF 10-20-08

ECCC ALUMNI OBSERVING GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY: Reunited for their 50th class reunion are the above East Central Community College alumni who received special recognition during homecoming activities held Sept. 27 on the Decatur campus. Class members received "Golden Anniversary" diplomas from ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin during a ceremony in the Vickers Fine Arts Center auditorium. First row, from left, are Jackie White Harmon, Northport, Ala.; Emily Shields Beaver, Falls Church, Va.; Ann Snuggs Jennings, Germantown, Tenn.; Nancy Peterson Haggard, Clinton; Carol Farrish Vickers and Glenda Hollingsworth Davis, both of Decatur; Hallie Jean Frazier Blalock, Tuscaloosa, Ala.; Margaret Evans Wilkerson, Madison; Carolyn Marshall McCraney, Chatsworth, Ga.; and Elsie Johnson Hollingsworth, Commerce, Ga.; Second row, from left, are Jeanette Beevers Thrash, Decatur; Jimmy Rea, Brandon; Kenneth Dunagin, Decatur; Larry Adcock, Lanett, Ala.; Dr. Milton Matthews, Pearl; and Burnard McCraney, Chatsworth, Ga. Back row, from left, are James McKay, Louisville Joe Vowell, McCool; John Hollingsworth, Commerce, Ga.; Bob Massey, Savannah, Ga.; Clyde Millis, Panama City, Fla.; and Jim Kelly, Metairie, La.

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WEEK OF 10·2008

IN DECATUR

ECCC ALUMNI OBSERVING 40TH CLASS REUNION: These 1968 class members at East Central Community College attended their 40th class reunion held during homecoming activities Sept. 27 on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Cornelia Wright Grimes of Carthage, Burnette Wolf Hamil of Sebastopol, Claudette Wolf Tucker of Morton, Sandy Puckett Keenan of Rose Hill and Sandra Dickerson Amis of Conehatta. Standing from left are Billy Ganann of Collinsville, Grady Jackson of Sturgis, James Cockerham and Ed Dickerson, both of Union; Fred Hollingsworth of Kenna, La., Bill Faulkner of Morton and Dr. John Gipson of Newton. Members of all classes ending in "8" were groups honored at this year's celebration.

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WEEK OF 10-27-08

ECCC Instructors Receiving Online Certification

These East Central Community College faculty members have completed requirements to teach online courses through the Mississippi Virtual Community College. Certified as online instructors and their areas of interest include (first row, from left) Stella Dickerson (computer technology), Roberta Holt (business administration and accounting), Carol Shackelford (English) and Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, vice president for instruction; and (back row, from left) Brent Gregory (economics), Polly Mayes (drafting and design technology), Pam Fowler (English) and Lynne Smith (English). Also shown is Dr. Chris Jenkins, dean of distance learning education. For more information online classes contact Dr. Jenkins, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 322. The e-mail address is cjenkins@eccc.edu.

APPEA

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WEEK OF 10-27-08

ECCC's 1957-1959 classes meet

These members of East Central Community College's 1957, 1958 and 1959 classes held their 11th annual reunion during homecoming activities Sept. 27 on the Decatur campus. First row, from left, are Bubba Hudspeth, Louisville; Carol Pace Henry, Madison; Keith Hudson and Linda Hudson, Louisville; Corinne Cross Neal, Huntington Beach, Calif.; Lois Blount Cooper, Decatur; Patsy Mowdy Vance, Meridian; Nan Barrier Stamper, Philadelphia; and Barbara Pilgrim Massey, Lucedale. Second row, from left, are Jackie White Harmon, Northport, Ala.; Emily Shields Beaver, Falls Church, Va.; Ann Snuggs Jennings, Germantown, Tenn.; Nancy Peterson Haggard, Clinton; Carol Farrish Vickers and Glenda Hollingsworth Davis, both of Decatur; Hallie Jean Frazier Blalock, Tuscaloosa, Ala.; Margaret Evans Wilkerson, Madison; Carolyn Marshall McCraney, Chatsworth, Ga.; Elsie Johnson Hollingsworth, Commerce, Ga.; Eugenia Carlton Baucum, Wiggins; and Keith Blalock, Northport, Ala. Third row, from left, are Jeanette Beever Thrash, Decatur; Jimmy Rea, Madison; Kenneth Dunagin, Decatur; Dr. Milton Matthews, Pearl; Burnard McCraney, Chatsworth, Ga.; Jimmy Kelly, Metairie, La.; Harvey Trapp, Newton; Fred Allgood, Conehatta; Lester Baucum, Wiggins; and Hank Moreau, Decatur. Fourth row, from left, are Jim McKay, Louisville; Joe Vowell, McCool; Larry Adcock, Lanett, Ala.; John Hollingsworth, Commerce, Ga.; Bob Massey, Savannah, Ga.; Clyde Mills, Panama City, Fla.; Mickey Burdette, Lanett, Ala.; James Vance, Meridian; Jim Wilkerson, Madison\; and Wilmer James, Brandon.

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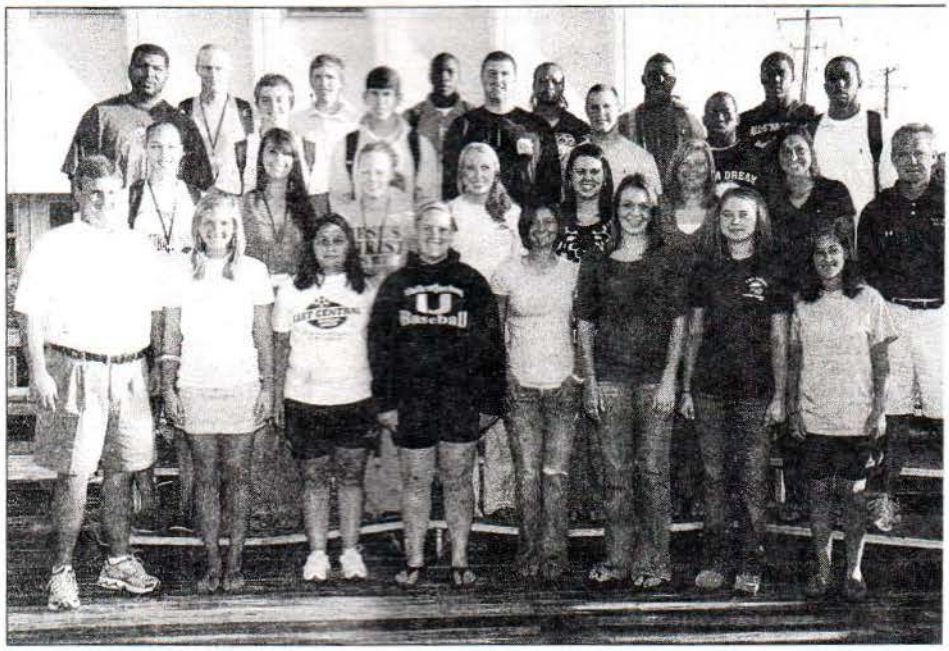
Week of 10-27-08

Continued from previous page

ECCC FCA



East Central Community College in Decatur recently announced Fellowship Christian Athletes members for 2008-09. The organization consists of a group athletes, coaches and students who worship together weekly and take part in national Christian organization for athletes and coaches. The group holds st dent-led worship "huddles" each week. Members include: (front row, from le FCA sponsor Coach Scott Hill of Decatur; Emily Thrash of Sebastopol; Catali Tarazona of Florence; Paige Holsen of Union; Sierra Farlow of Philadelphi Shana Easley of Florence and Marcia Guerreiro of Richland; (second row, frc left) Kat Taylor of Carthage; Kimberly Blackwell of Nanih Waiya; Genny Freem of Laurel; Allison Phillips and Emily Wooten, both of Carthage; Erin Breland a Hannah Lee, both of Philadelphia and Coach Steve Cheatham of Decatur; (thi row, from left) Coach Maurice Bowie of Decatur; Tyler McNeil and Der Crenshaw, both of Philadelphia; Jarred Fleming of Louisville; Dustin Alley McDonough, Ga.; Kendrick D. May of Northport, Ala.; Bruce Williams Ridgeland; (back row, from left) Drew Wilson of Louisville; Timothy Maloney Meridian; Clint Coleman of Louisville; Lamar Truman of Meridian; Randy Car of Quitman and Jeremy Dillon of Hattiesburg. For more information on EC FCA, contact Coach Scott Hill at 601-635-6301 or call toll free, 1-877-462-32 ext. 301

WEEK OF 10-27-07

Former ECCC coaches and players honored

Former East Central Community College tennis coaches and players were among special groups honored during homecoming activities held Sept. 27 on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Julie Latham, Lena; Wanda McPhail, Collinsville; Brenda Whatley Kirby, Forest; Lois Blount Cooper, Decatur; former coach and player Lucille Wood, Decatur/Louisville; and Sandy Puckett Keenan, Rose Hill. Standing from left are Charles McAdory, Pontotoc; Speedy Calvert, Louisville; Chris Clark, Decatur; Paul Chamblee, Carthage; Mark Henderson, Forest; Clyde Mills, Panama City, Fla.; former coach Joe Clark, Decatur; and Jim Wilkerson, Madison.

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WEEK OF 10-27-08

OBSERVE 60TH ECCC CLASS REUNION: These 1948 class members at East Central Community College attended reunion activities held at the Sept. 27 homecoming on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Ollie Fay Wood Fint of Philadelphia, Doris Henley Murphy of Clinton and June Hollingsworth Tobelman of Decatur. Standing from left are Carl Fulton of Lena, Dr. Brad Tucker of Decatur and Paul Simmons of Louisville. All members of classes ending in "8" were among groups honored at this year's celebration.

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10-27-08

REPRESENTS ECCC '78 CLASS: Dianne Andersen of Decatur was the lone representative of the East Central Community College Class of 1978, which observed its 30th reunion during homecoming activities held Sept. 27 on the Decatur campus. Members of all classes ending in "8" were among groups honored at this year's celebration.

week of 10-27-08

Continued from previous page

ATTEND ECCC CLASS OF 1988 REUNION: Representing East Central Community College's Class of 1988 during reunion activities held at homecoming Sept. 28, 2008, are (from left) Amy Pouncey Lewis of Wesson, Thurman Harrell of Lake, Vivian Taylor of Newton and Susan Fox-Smith of Decatur. All members of classes ending in "8" were among groups honored at this year's celebration.

WEEK OF 10-27-08

IN DECATUR

ECCC 'LAMPLIGHTER' INSTRUCTORS: These East Central Community College faculty members participated in the 2008 Lamplighter Conference held Sept. 17-19 at Northwest Mississippi Community College in Senatobia. From left are Kevin Ryals (speech) of Louisville, Theresa Cole (healthcare assistant) of Hickory, Debbie Hammons (computer science) of Decatur, Ruth Gregory (business technology) of Little Rock and Curt Skipper (biology) of Decatur. The annual event is sponsored by the Mississippi Community and Junior College Academic Deans' Association to honor top community/junior instructors. The theme of this year's conference, "I Am Still Learning," was taken from a quote Michelangelo. Keynote speaker Dr. Eric Clark, executive director, State Board for Community and Junior Colleges, provided a history of community colleges and predicted a "bright future" for the state's community and junior college system.

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WEEK OF 11-3-08

ECCC PHOT

ECCC WELCOMES NEW STAFF MEMBERS

Several new faces have joined the East Central Community College staff in Decatur for the 2008-09 school term. New personnel include (seated from left) Melanie Pinter of Philadelphia, Dual Enrollment/Dual Credit Practical Nursing instructor; Kristin Chaney of Little Rock, athletic advisor/assistant women's basketball/softball coach; Denita Thomas of Philadelphia, Associate Degree Nursing instructor; Lynne Smith of Quitman, English instructor; and Gennie Phillips-Odom of Forest, publications coordinator; and (standing from left) Paula Russum of Burns, Associate Degree Nursing instructor; Christopher Brady of Ridgeland, art instructor; Brian Anderson of Decatur, assistant football coach; and Kyle James of Brandon, information technology specialist. Also pictured is ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. ECCC began fall classes Thursday, August 21.

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WEEK OF 11-12-08

East Central Community College Participates in WAEM Town Workshop

ECCC Workforce Development is Represented at "Designing Our Future" Workshop in Louisville.

Louisville, MS – ECCC Workforce Development Dean, Roger Whitlock and Mike Ellis, Civic Leadership Facilitator completed the WAEM Town, Designing Our Future workshop held at Lake Tiak O'Khata near Louisville, MS October 22-24, 2008. Whitlock and Ellis attended two and one-half days of interactive presentations and worked with a team to plan a hypothetical town. After attending this intensive workshop, many participants have returned to their communities to emphasize the importance of planning to long-term economic viability.

The Workshop included several presentations, as well as a hands-on design exercise that focuses on problem-solving in a hypothetical town. Cheryl Morgan of the Auburn School of Architecture Urban Studio gave the keynote address – "Planning to Succeed." Larry Jarrett of the Natural Resources Initiative of Northern Mississippi discussed Natural Resources and how to preserve and capitalize on them. Other presenters discussed Cultural Resources, Historic Preservation, and Economic Development, while case studies were presented by Jan Miller of the Carthage, MS Mainstreet Program and Judy Martin (Marion, Al). Whitlock, Ellis, and 39 other civic and community leaders found plenty of technical advice, inspiration, and practical training.

The Your Town workshop format is an intensive engagement of citizen leaders and professionals. It focuses on these critical planning and design decisions. The workshop is highly participatory, with lectures, case-study presentations and interactive group problem solving. It is a direct response to the uncertain future of Mississippi and Alabama small towns – a future increasingly threatened by large scale changes in our economy, population shifts, the impact of telecommunications and mass merchandising, and changes in land policy. In the face of these forces, communities have found themselves struggling to maintain their vitality and even their sense of identity. Whether the threat is sudden growth or stagnation, planning and design decisions can often make the difference between survival and decay, between healthy prosperity and decline.

The Workshop was targeted to the WAEM:WIRED Initiative and based on a program that has been practiced by Your Town Alabama for the past ten years.

The workshop offers real hope to real communities. People like Whitlock and Ellis who care about their community's appearance and growth can begin learning more about how to protect it through Your Town Alabama. For more information about the organization, please visit the Your

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WEEK OF 11-10-08

MBEA LEADERS

SUBMITTED PHOTO

East Central Community College served as host for the annual fall conference of the Mississippi Business Education Association held recently on the Decatur campus. The theme of this year's meeting was "Rock & Roll with Business Education." MBEA Executive Board members attending the conference include: front row, from left, Judy Hurtt, president, ECCC; Dr. Sharon Rouse, senior college representative, University of Southern Mississippi; Margaret Blue, high school representative, Biloxi High School; Dr. Diane Fisher, president-elect, USM; Carole Deere, high school representative, Biloxi High School; and standing, from left, Vicki Keel, senior college representative, Mississippi State University; Charlotte Overby, Phi Beta Lambda state consultant, Itawamba Community College; Gail Warner, high school representative, Choctaw Central High School; Jan Guyse, Future Business Leaders of America state advisor, Mississippi Department of Education; Joanna Alston and Angela Butler, community college representatives, Madelon Gruich, secretary, and Lisa Courtney, historian, all from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College; Christy Ferguson, newsletter publisher, and Brenda Johnson, community college representative, both of ECCC; and Dr. Charlotte Williams, treasurer, Jones County Junior College.

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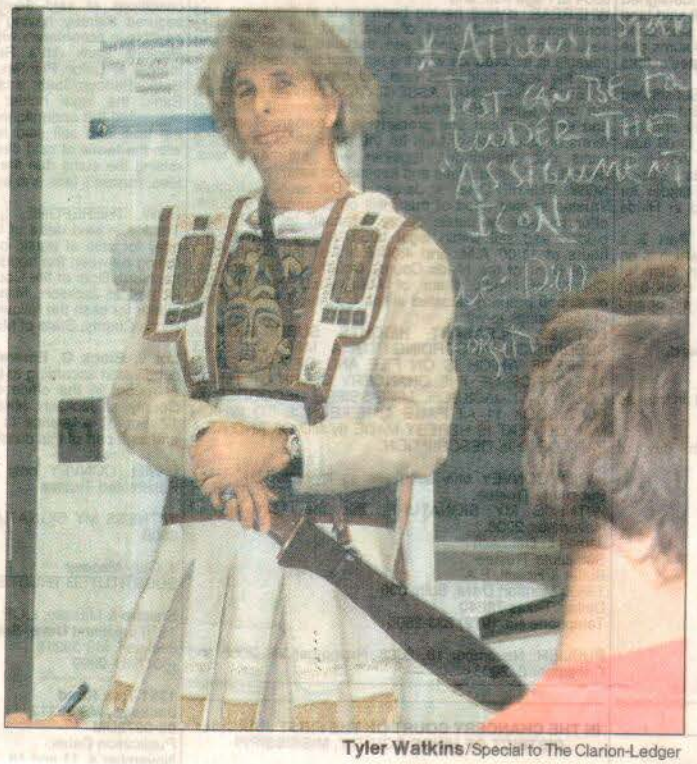
WEEK OF 11-17-08



Tyler Watkins/Special to The Clarion-Ledger

TOP: Regina and Mark Holmgren of Clinton pause to learn about pirate ships during an activity at Lovett Elementary School in Clinton. Sixth-grade students embraced the persona of pirates, teaching parents and other visitors about the pirate lifestyle, tools and vessels.

LEFT: East Central Community College instructor Phillip Crenshaw as Alexander the Great.

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WEEK OF 11-24-08

Honored for service

V.C. Manning, right, of Philadelphia was recently honored for his service as a member of the East Central Community College Board of Trustees. Manning, former Neshoba County Superintendent of Education, served on the ECCC Board from 1988-1996 and 2004-08. He also served a term as Board Chairman in 1994 and 1995. He is shown receiving a plaque of appreciation from ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. – EC Photo

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WEEK OF 12-15-08

Boyd leaving education after 28 year-career

Ever since she was a small child, Debbie Boyd knew she wanted to be a teacher.

"When I 'played school' with my sister, I was always the teacher," Boyd recalled. "I've always wanted a career in education."

She said her career decision was also influenced by her first-grade teacher and ninth-grade algebra instructor.

Boyd said it's hard to believe that the career she dreamt of as a child is coming to an end. She is retiring this month after serving twenty-eight-and-a-half years in education, most recently at East Central Community College in Decatur.

"I cannot believe that I've been teaching so long!" exclaimed Boyd, who joined the ECCC English faculty in 2003 following 22 years as an instructor in the Meridian Public School System. She is also a former adjunct instructor at the Meridian branch of Mississippi State University and Meridian Community College.

"Although I'm sad about leaving EC," she continued, "I think change is good. Since my first year of teaching, I've had a poster that states that it is only through change that we grow. I've enjoyed the changes in my profession through the years."

One of the most notable changes in the teaching profession is the use of computers in the classroom.

"I use the computer more to teach now than I did when I first began," Boyd said. "Being able to use word processors and later computers has been a substantial improvement over the use of a typewriter. By using a computer and by being able to save documents on a hard drive or a jump drive, students can utilize flexibility and ease in writing."

Although technology has brought about change in the classroom, Boyd said the most effective way to reach students is with the personal approach.

Debbie Boyd

"An instructor must let students know that he or she is willing to help them learn and improve themselves, especially in writing," she said. "It is also important to remind students that instructors write, revise and rewrite, too!"

Boyd noted, along with changes, there have also been challenges throughout her career.

"One of the biggest challenges is balancing the paper load with everything else," she said. "There never seems to be enough time to grade all those

See **BOYD**, page 6B

Boyd

Continued from page 3B

papers!"

She said another challenge "is the planning involved in getting all the necessary information and materials into a semester."

Although the "paper load" for teachers is not likely to change anytime soon, Boyd said one change she would like to see in education is more financial support for the state's community and junior colleges.

"I would like to see more state funding and fewer budget cuts from the Mississippi State Legislature in order for community colleges to be able to update facilities and classroom equipment, especially in the area of technology," she said.

Boyd, whose teaching honors include her selection as a "Lamplighter," an award recognizing the state's outstanding community and junior college instructors, said it's possible she will resume teaching after a little vacation time.

"I'll be moving to Pensacola to enjoy the sun and sand," she said with a big smile. "My husband (Dock Boyd) and I have been in the transition of moving from Meridian to Pensacola for about two-and-a-half years. He's been working there as funeral director at Faith Chapel Funeral Home since June 2006, and we bought a house last December. However, I'm a goal-oriented person, so I'm sure that after a few months of rest and relaxation, I'll be working again."

A graduate of North Pike High School in Summit, Boyd holds an associate of arts from Southwest Mississippi Community College, a bachelor of arts from the University of Southern Mississippi, and a master of arts and educational specialist degree from Mississippi State University.

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WEEK OF 12-22-08

ECCC presents gifts for needy children

Christmas came a little early for residents of the Sunbelt Christian Youth Ranch near Lake, thanks to the generosity of students and staff members at East Central Community College in Decatur. Numerous bags of toys, clothes, candy and other food items were presented Dec. 18 to the youngsters from representatives of the College's Phi Beta Lambda chapter, an organization for business students. From left are PBL service committee members Lachelle Moss of Decatur and Katrina Bell of Conehatta; chapter adviser Judith Hutt; Brock Price; adviser Ruth Gregory; Sierra Price; house parent Angie Price; Talon Price; and house parent Caleb Price. In addition to the Price children, eight other children reside at the ranch. Phi Beta Lambda selected the Sunbelt Christian Youth Ranch as its community service project this year. (EC Photo)

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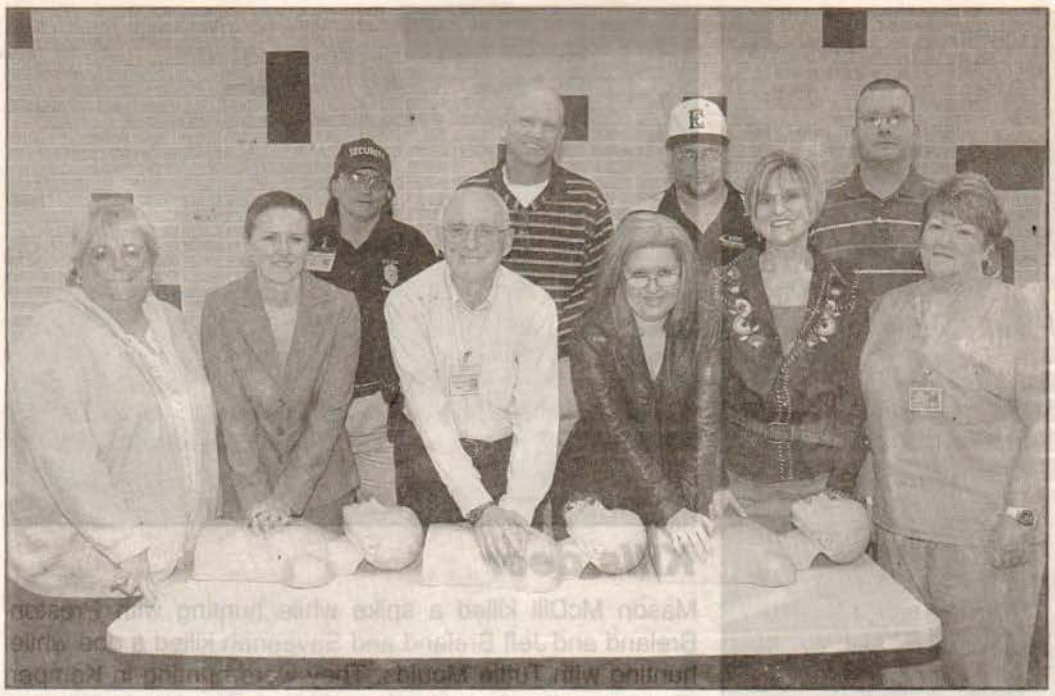

ECCC staffers complete CPR training

These East Central Community College staff members recently completed CPR training following instruction provided on the Decatur campus. From left (in front) are Kathy George, instructor, who also serves as early childhood education instructor; Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for foundation and alumni relations; R. T. Purvis, information technology specialist; Lisa O'Neil, hotel/restaurant management technology instructor; Teri Killens, administrative assistant to the vice president for instruction; and College nurse Gloria Rigdon, who provided assistance. Standing from left are Kim Havard, security staff member; Joe Killens, vice president for student services; Michael McWhirter, student services; and Jonathan Peeples, director of student life, who served as assistant instructor. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Jan. 7

Coach

From Page 1B

out-of-state recruit.

"We hit the road on Dec. 17th," Cheatham said. "We went in about a 150-mile radius of the campus. We felt like those were the places we could go and get kids to come to school here. We found a bunch of players and have to figure out which of those we can get. There were probably 70 to 80 players on that list and we will probably sign six or eight out of that 70. You recruit 10 to get one."

One thing Cheatham is pleased about in the district are the offensive lineman, leaving the Warriors to look elsewhere for skill people.

"We have a good bunch of offensive lineman in the district," Cheatham said. "So we'll be looking for skill players mostly. We'll be looking for several defensive players as well."

As far as his coaching staff, Cheatham said he is close to making a hire on an offensive coordinator and hinted that it will probably be a high school coach. As far as the rest of his staff, it will remain in place with James Miller moving up to become defensive coordinator.

"With the exception of hiring a new offensive coordinator, the staff will remain intact," Cheatham said. "I have interviewed four or five head coaches from the district and hopefully will have somebody soon. It's funny, the high schools are paying so well right now, it's hard to match that money. But I feel strongly about giving a high school coach a chance. Coach (Terry) Underwood gave me that chance and I feel like I should do the same. I would like to get them in here as soon as possible so they can have some input on recruiting."

National signing day is Wednesday, Feb. 6.

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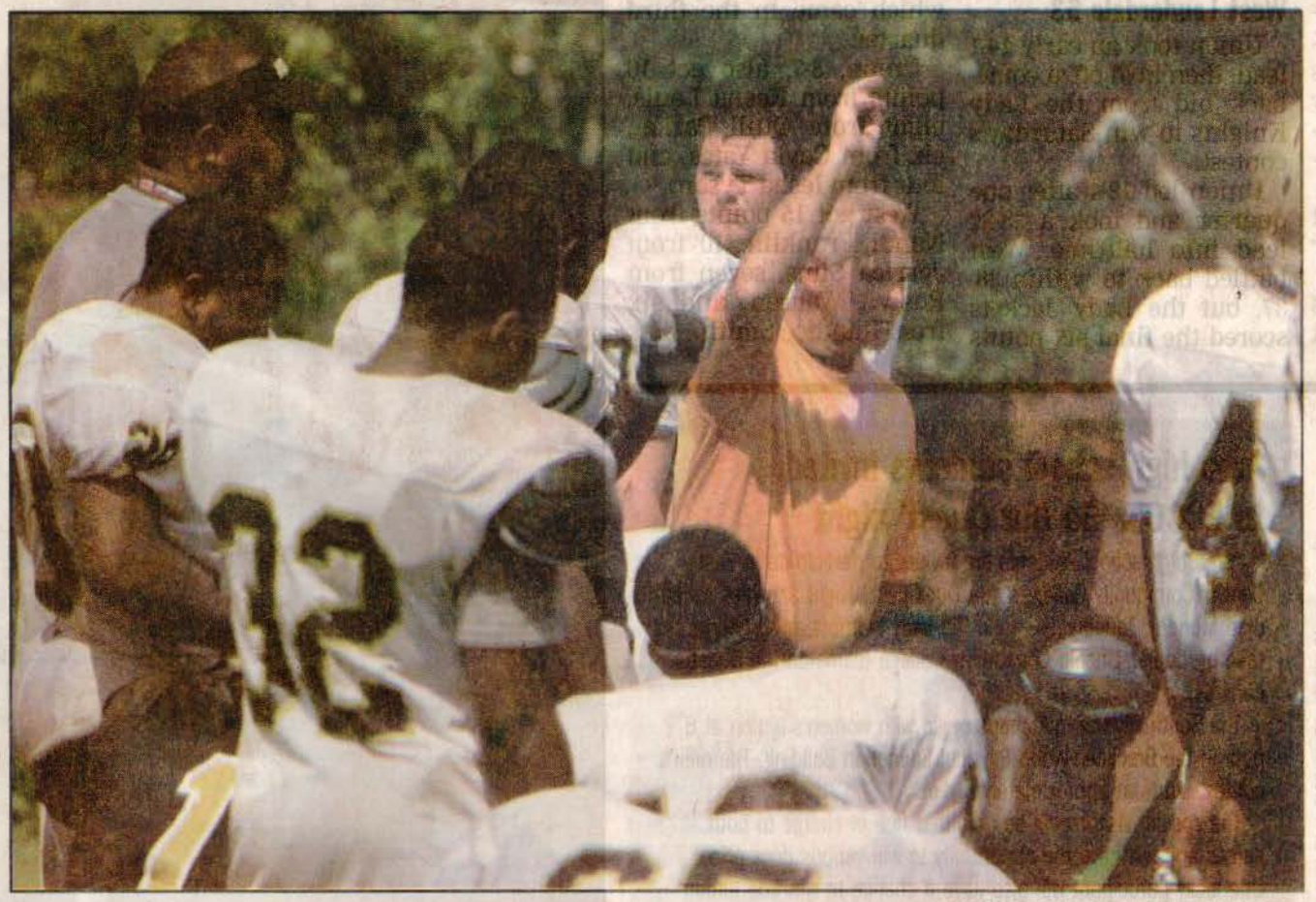
Jan 7

JUCO FOOTBALL



ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central's Steve Cheatham talks with his defense during a pre-season scrimmage. Cheatham is now the new head coach at East Central.

New EC coach hits ground running

With national signing day a month away, new Warrior head coach busy with recruiting

By Robbie Robertson
The Newton Record

New East Central Community College footballl coach Steve Cheatham has been a busy person over the Christmas holidays.

Instead of enjoying time with family and the holidays in general, Cheatham has been busy working on recruiting and trying to hire a new offensive coordinator.

"It has been a whirlwind," Cheatham said. "Terry (Underwood) is a real good friend of mine and I hate that it happened the way it did. But he encouraged me to take the job and told me that I really needed to take it. I owe him an awful lot. I was a little nervous and apprehensive about it because of my relationship with Terry. But I'm excited about it and honored to be the head football coach at East Central."

Having been at East Central two seperate times and on the staffs at Ole Miss and Clemson, Cheatham knows exactly what it takes to win.

"Recruiting is the name of the game," Cheatham said. "That's the thing we have to do as a staff, is to get the right players that will give us the best chance of winning. We lost several close games this year and we have to find players who are going to make plays in those close situations. There are good players out there and it's our job to recruit them to East Central."

The Warriors submitted a "protected list" of 22 players within the district to the state office on Dec. 15. After those names were submitted, the East Central coaches went out recruiting, trying to find a few hidden gems. The Warriors are able to sign an "unprotected" player in the state as well as a limited number of out-of-state players. Also, Tuscaloosa County in Alabama is considered part of East Central's district and does not count as an

See **COACH**, Page 2B

WEEK OF Jan. 7

THE MERIDIAN STAR
Friday, January 11, 2008

11 ECCC football pla

from school reports

Eleven members of the 2007 East Central Community College football squad are continuing their careers at various four-year colleges and universities after signing mid-year scholarships, said new head coach Steve Cheatham, who recently took over the Warrior football program.

Now with the University of Southern Mississippi is wide receiver Freddie Parham, a 5-11, 180-pound product of St. Clair County High School in Margaret, Ala.

Joining the Delta State University squad are defensive linemen Mark Hoskins (5-11, 290) and Ken Whitfield (6-1, 245), both from Louisville; and Katlan French, a 5-9, 175-pound wide receiver from Starkville Academy.

Harris

Warriors now playing at Mississippi Valley State University are defensive end Chris Iv of Loui offensive Marquis H. 320) of M High School.

Tappe sippi College i nerback Dan Brown (5-10, 165) Thomastown.

Two Warriors joined the University of North Alabama squad, cornerback Travis Robinson (6-1, 190) and free safety Ray Frierson (6-0, 180), both of

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WEEK OF Jan. 14

Members of the East Central Community College football squad who were chosen honorable mention All-State following the 2007 campaign are (seated, from left) cornerback Dameon Brown, Thomastown; linebacker Harvey Brown, Neshoba Central; wide receiver Kendrick May, Tuscaloosa County; cornerback Travis Robinson, Hillcrest HS, Tuscaloosa, Ala.; tight end Spencer Spane, Terry; offensive lineman Marquis Harris, Meridian; wide receiver Michael Townsend, Forest; and defensive lineman Ken Whitfield, Louisville. Standing are cornerback Fredrick Lyons, Newton County; linebacker Jamar Lawrence, Tuscaloosa County; offensive tackle John Bailey, Hillcrest; defensive end Chris Ivy and defensive end Mark Hoskins, both of Louisville; linebacker Vonzell Jackson, Aliceville, Ala.; strong safety Ken Coleman, Louisville; and kickers/punters Beau Hannah of Morton and Derek Crenshaw, Neshoba Central. Not pictured are defensive lineman Quan Lowe, Holt HS, Tuscaloosa; running back Lamario Hopson, Meridian; wide receiver Katlan French, Starkville Academy; fullback Courtney Shelton, Tuscaloosa Academy; defensive end Josh Lewis, Tuscaloosa County; and offensive lineman Justin Moore, Leake Academy.

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WEEK OF Jan. 14

Members of the 2007 East Central Community College football squad who received various team honors at the annual Fall Sports Banquet are (seated, from left) cornerback Fredrick Lyons, of Newton County High School, Academic Award; nose guard Henry Scott, of Tulsa, Okla., Most Valuable Defensive Lineman; guard James Jenkins of Columbus, Most Valuable Offensive Lineman; and free safety Ray Frierson, of Tuscaloosa, Ala.; Kemba Bryant Most Valuable Defensive Back. Standing are linebacker David Brackett of Philadelphia, defensive team captain; offensive tackle John Bailey, of Tuscaloosa, defensive lineman Mark Hoskins of Louisville, and linebacker Jamar Lawrence of Tuscaloosa, Warrior Awards; and running back Roosevelt Ross, of Ocala, Fla., Most Valuable Player and Most Valuable Offensive Back.

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WEEK OF Jan. 14

EC gridders ink with four-year schools

from school reports

Eleven members of the 2007 East Central Community College football squad are continuing their careers at various four-year colleges and universities after signing mid-year scholarships, announced Steve Cheatham, who recently took over the Warrior football program.

Now with the University of Southern Mississippi is wide receiver Freddie Parham, a 5-foot-11, 180-pound product of St. Clair County High School in Margaret, Ala.

Joining the Delta State University squad are defensive linemen Mark Hoskins (5-11, 290) and Ken Whitfield (6-1, 245), both from Louisville; and Katlan French, a 5-foot-9, 175-pound wide receiver from Starkville Academy.

Warriors now playing at Mississippi Valley State University are defensive end Chris Ivey (6-2, 225) of Louisville and offensive lineman Marquis Harris (6-2, 320) of Meridian.

Tapped by Mississippi College is cornerback Dameon Brown (5-10, 165) of Thomastown.

Two Warriors have joined the University of North Alabama squad, cornerback Travis Robinson (6-1, 190) and free safety Ray Frierson (6-0, 180), both of products of Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Now with the University of Tennessee-Martin is linebacker Jamar Lawrence (6-1, 220) of Tuscaloosa County High School.

Running back Roosevelt Ross (5-8, 190) of Ocala-Forest (Fla.) High School signed with Jacksonville State University. Ross finished second in the state in rushing with 695 yards on 98 carries, a 5.9-yard average, despite missing two games due to injuries.

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The Newton Record

SPORTS 1B

Wednesday, January 23, 2008

Cheatham taps Anderson for OC job

By Robbie Robertson
The Newton Record

It didn't take new East Central football coach Steve Cheatham long to find an offensive coordinator. He also didn't have to look very far.

Keeping true to his promise to hire from the high school ranks, Cheatham tapped Grenada coach Brian Anderson to be his offensive coordinator. Cheatham hired Anderson at Philadelphia, where he later became the head coach. Anderson played collegiality at Mississippi State.

Cheatham

"We worked together for two years at Philadelphia," Cheatham said. "I hired him as the offensive line coach and he did a good job. Brian is just a good football coach. He played at State and has excellent knowledge of the game. He's a good person and you want to surround yourself with good people."

Not only did Cheatham coach Anderson, he has coached against him as well and knows how hard his offenses can be to defend.

"When I was the head coach at Neshoba, he was the head guy at Philadelphia," Cheatham said. "Offensively, I like what they did. They did a good job of putting guys in motion and putting a lot of pressure on the defense. At the same time, they would line up and play smash-mouth football.

See **ECCC**, Page 2B

WEEK OF Jan. 21

ECCC

From Page 1B

He ran a lot of different sets but not a lot of plays. He would use the formations to get the matchups he wanted."

Anderson has been on staff for a few weeks and was recently approved by the college board. He's had to hit the ground running, with national signing day getting close. Cheatham said his offensive staff has been meeting to work on an offensive philosophy and develop what they want to do.

East Central recently hosted all 17 of their in-district protected players to campus for a night of basketball.

"I thought that went real well," Cheatham said. "We protected 17 players in Mississippi and five in Tuscaloosa County. We've got 12 solid commitments from our in-district guys. The other five are qualified and have some offers and are still waiting to see what they are going to get. We'll be bringing in the five guys from Tuscaloosa this Thursday night and five out-of-state players. So I think we will know a little better after Thursday night on where we stand with those guys and where we have to go from here."

Cheatham said spring practice will start at the end of February and will conclude with an intrasquad game on March 29 that will coincide with a home baseball game with Hinds.

"We wanted to do something like the Super Bulldog weekend," Cheatham said. "We'll have our spring game where we invite all the signees and their parents. The baseball team will also play and there will be a lot of activities going on around campus. We really want it to be something special for the school and the kids."

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WEEK OF Jan. 21

Numerous EC Warriors continuing football careers

Eleven members of the 2007 East Central Community College football squad are continuing their careers at various four-year colleges and universities after signing mid-year scholarships, announced Steve Cheatham, who recently took over the Warrior football program.

Now with the University of Southern Mississippi is wide receiver Freddie Parham, a 5-11, 180-pound product of St. Clair County High School in Margaret, Ala.

Joining the Delta State University squad are defensive linemen Mark Hoskins (5-11, 290) and Ken Whitfield (6-1, 245), both from Louisville; and Katlan French, a 5-9, 175-pound wide receiver from Starkville Academy.

Warriors now playing at Mississippi Valley State University are defensive end Chris Ivey (6-2, 225) of Louisville and offensive lineman Marquis Harris (6-2, 320) of Meridian.

Tapped by Mississippi College is cornerback Dameon Brown (5-10, 165) of Thomastown.

Two Warriors have joined the University of North Alabama squad, cornerback Travis Robinson (6-1, 190) and free safety Ray Frierson (6-0, 180), both of products of Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa.

Now with the University of Tennessee-Martin is linebacker Jamar Lawrence (6-1, 220) of Tuscaloosa County High School.

Running back Roosevelt Ross (5-8, 190) of Ocala-Forest (Fla.) High School signed with Jacksonville State University. Ross finished second in the state in rushing with 695 yards on 98 carries, a 5.9-yard average, although he played in just seven of nine games. He averaged 99.3 yards per contest and scored eight touchdowns. He missed two games due to injury.

Coach Cheatham said he expects additional Warriors will sign scholarships with four-year schools later in the spring.

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WEEK OF Feb. 4

East Central Community College sophomore Frederick Lyons (left) of Decatur, a two-year member of the Warrior football team, was recently selected as a First Team JC Gridwire Scholar Athlete All-American. A cornerback for the Warriors, Lyons was one of only three players from Mississippi selected for the prestigious honor. A liberal arts major, Lyons maintains a 3.5 grade point average. At right is ECCC athletic director and former head coach Terry Underwood.

EC photo

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WEEK OF 2-11-08

SUBMITTED PHOTO

ECCC FOOTBALL WARRIORS MOVING ON

Continuing their athletic careers are these members of the East Central Community College football squad who signed letters of intent on National Signing Day February 5. Seated from left are John Bailey of Tuscaloosa, who signed with Birmingham Southern University; Frederick Lyons of Decatur, who inked with the University of North Alabama; and Spencer Spane of Terry, a new addition to the University of Central Arkansas squad. Also pictured during the signing ceremony are (standing from left) ECCC assistant football coach Fred Lyons (father of Fredrick Lyons) and ECCC athletic director/former Warrior head football coach Terry Underwood.

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WEEK OF 3-11-08

Newton County High School football standout linebacker Guy Holden signed a national letter of intent to continue his athletic career at East Central Community College in Decatur. Holden, a 5-foot-10, 210-pound linebacker, was a first team Class 3A All-State selection for the 2007 Cougars and was chosen Best Linebacker in Region 5-3A. A three-year starter, Holden led Newton County in tackles last season with 113 solo stops and 72 assists. He was also credited with one forced fumble, two fumble recoveries, and 10 tackles for loss yardage. He helped lead the Cougars to an 11-2 record. Shown with Holden are his mother, Racheal White of Decatur, and Cougar head football coach Jeff Breland.

EC photo

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WEEK OF 2-11-2008

2-11-2008

Sign with ECCC

Four members of the 2007 Philadelphia High School football team and two players from Neshoba Central have signed to play football for the East Central Community College Warriors this fall. At right, PHS senior football players, seated left to right, are, Lucas McNair, Kendrick Griffin, Zerrick Houston and Tevin Houston. Standing are Ken Griffin, Juliet Griffin, Sharon Houston, Cathy Cole and Luqudia Houston; below left, are, NCHS football player Jonathan Colston, at left is his mother, Betty Colston, and at right, friend Donnie Tabb; below right, are, Scott Parham, center, at left is his mother, Sandra Parham, and at right, his grandmother, Mary Wells. Also joining the Neshoba Central senior at the signing was his cousin, Terrence Hill.

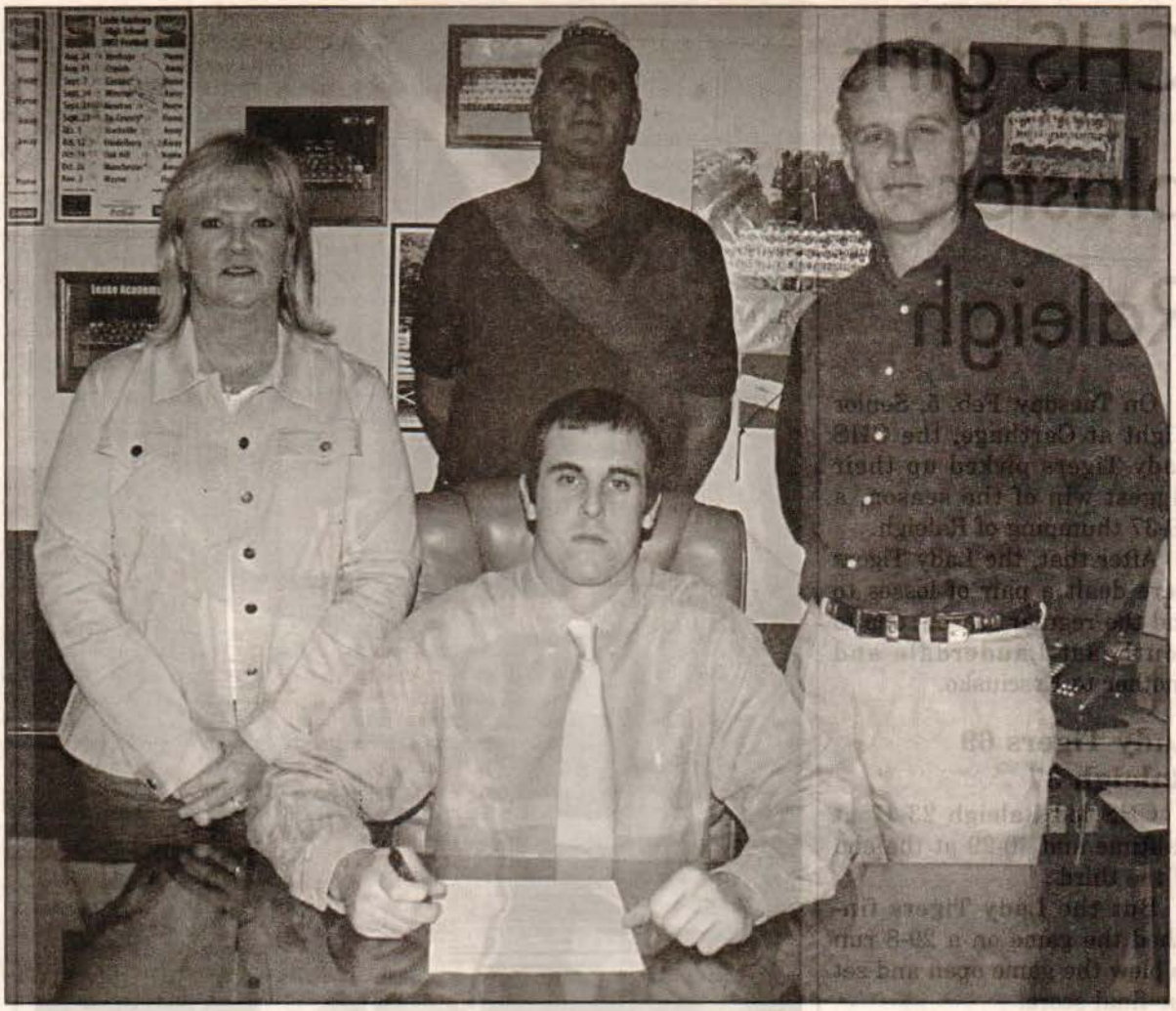
2-11-2008

Sign with ECCC

Four members of the 2007 Philadelphia High School football team and two players from Neshoba Central have signed to play football for the East Central Community College Warriors this fall. At right, PHS senior football players, seated left to right, are, Lucas McNair, Kendrick Griffin, Zerrick Houston and Tevin Houston. Standing are Ken Griffin, Juliet Griffin, Sharon Houston, Cathy Cole and Luqudia Houston; below left, are, NCHS football player Jonathan Colston, at left is his mother, Betty Colston, and at right, friend Donnie Tabb; below right, are, Scott Parham, center, at left is his mother, Sandra Parham, and at right, his grandmother, Mary Wells. Also joining the Neshoba Central senior at the signing was his cousin, Terrence Hill.

Photos by Debbie Burt Myers

WEEK OF 2-11-08



McBeth agrees to become a Warrior

Leake Academy senior Will McBeth, seated, signed a national letter of intent to join the East Central Community College football Warriors this fall. He was joined by, from left, his parents Dwain and Zela McBeth and Rebels coach Brian Pickens.

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WEEK OF 2-11-08

THE TIMES/CHRIS ALLEN BAKER

Forest Bearcats' Robert Lee Williams, seated right, signed a national letter of intent last Wednesday to play football for East Central Community College as a defensive lineman. Celebrating the signing occasion was his mother, Patricia Smith, seated left.

Head football coach Judd Boswell, standing right, and coach Steve Moorehead also participated in the occasion.

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WEEK OF 2-11-08

Lake Hornets' Jeremy Johnson, seated right, signed a national letter of intent last week to play football for East Central Community College as a fullback and defensive tackle. Celebrating the signing occasion was his mother, Tammy, seated left, and head football coach Bill Ingersoll.

THE TIMES/CHRIS ALLEN BAKER

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WEEK OF 2-11-08

East Central Community College football signees list

Player	School	Height	Weight	Position
Jeremy Johnson	Lake HS	6-1	280	FB
Tevon Houston	Philadelphia HS	6-0	200	QB
Zerrick Houston	Philadelphia HS	6-0	185	DB
Lucas McNair	Philadelphia HS	6-0	300	OL
Ken Griffen	Philadelphia HS	5-11	190	RB
Guy Holden	Newton County HS	5-10	205	LB
Chuckie Curry	Newton HS	6-6	250	TE
Carlos Logins	Grenada HS	5-10	180	DB
Antonio Hughes	Morton HS	6-3	190	WR
Derrick Cade	Tuscaloosa (Ala.) Central HS	5-9	190	RB
Jarred Fleming	Louisville HS	6-5	245	OL
Demarrio Eichelberger	Louisville HS	6-1	175	DB
Robert Lee Williams	Forest HS	6-5	300	DL
Scott Parham	Neshoba Central HS	6-3	315	OL
Jonathan Coleston	Neshoba Central HS	6-2	200	LB
Will McBeath	Leake Academy	6-1	200	TE
Terrell Jackson	Prattville (Ala.) HS	6-2	200	LB
Marlo Marshall	Prattville (Ala.) HS	6-3	200	FS
Elijah Tanksley	Meridian HS	6-4	200	FS
Emmanuel Taylor	Early Co. HS (Blakely, Ga.)	5-11	185	QB
C.J. Estelle	Childersburg (Ala.) HS	5-11	185	DB
Dustin Alley	Union Grove HS (McDonough, Ga.)	6-0	195	WR
Chris Watson	West Lauderdale HS	6-0	200	LB

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Cheatham inks 23 players in first class, three from area

By Robbie Robertson
The Newton Record

Steve Cheatham found a talented group of in-district lineman in his first recruiting class as head football coach at East Central Community College.

"I thought we had a good signing class, a good blend of size and quickness," Cheatham said. "We felt like we signed some good lineman that will be able to come in and help us out. And we signed some good skill people as well. I thought it was a diverse group of signees in the district."

Cheatham

The Warrriors signed 23 players on Wednesday, which was national signing day. The Warriors signed 14 players for their five-county Mississippi recruiting district and one from Tuscaloosa Central in Alabama.

Locally, the Warriors signed three players from The Newton Record's coverage area.

Among those three is Lake's Jeremy Johnson, a 6-foot-1, 280-pound fullback/defensive lineman. Johnson was the Hornets leading rusher last year and the Hornets' most valuable player.

Also signing was Newton County linebacker Guy Holden, who led the county in tackles last year with 171. Holden, 5-foot-10, 205 pounds, also tallied more than 100 tackles as a sophomore and missed his junior year after being injured in a car wreck.

The third local signee was Newton's Chucky Curry, a three-sport athlete. Curry, 6-foot-6 and 250 pounds, played tight end and defensive end at Newton and was the Tigers top threat in the passing game.

The Warriors signed four players from Philadelphia, three skill people and one offensive lineman. The Warriors also signed two players from Louisville's Class 3A championship team and two players from Neshoba Central. The Warriors also landed two players from Prattville, the Class 6A champion from Alabama.

"We got some championship caliber players," Cheatham said. "We signed some kids from some winning programs. Of

See **CLASS**, Page 2B

WEEK OF 2-11-08

Cheatham inks first class at ECCC

New East Central Community College head football coach Steve Cheatham signed 23 players in his first signing class at the school. Cheatham said the class was very diverse with a good number of linemen signing on the dotted line.

– Page 1B

Class

From Page 1B

course, you never really know what you've got until they get here in August."

One thing the Warriors didn't get was a quarterback. Starter Deon Williams was a sophomore and backup Jacob Massey is no longer with the program, leaving the cupboard bear. The Warriors did bring in a mid-year signee, Emmanuel Taylor from Blakely, Ga., who was the 2A player of the year there and orginally signed with Middle Tennessee State.

"We brought Taylor in and we will see what he can do in the spring but we are still looking to bring in another quarterback or two to compete," Cheatham said. "We protected two quarterbacks in the district, one from Morton who signed with Jackson State, and one from Tuscaloosa who signed with Tuskegee. Those were two guys we would have loved to had on campus that we protected but signed elsewhere."

From here on out, the Warriors will be holding an open tryout on Friday, Feb. 15 for any player in the state. After that, Cheatham said they will continue to be in contact with other college coaches, hoping to find a few hidden gems.

"We're still working the phones, talking with college coaches and seeing if there are some guys who fell through the cracks," Cheatham said. "Then we'll wait until June after the last ACT test and there will be a group of guys there who signed division one that don't make it. So we are holding a couple of scholarships open trying to fill in a few more holes. I would like to bring in another running back, and perhaps another offensive and defensive lineman."

The Warriors will begin spring football practice on Wednesday, Feb. 20 and practices are open to the public.

"We've been working on implementing our offense with the guys we've got here," Cheatham said. "We've been doing some blackboard work and some passing drills, things like that."

ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

Newton's Chucky Curry signs a letter of intent to play football at East Central Community College last Thursday. Curry is flanked by his parents, Jerry Curry, left and Ann Curry, right. In back, Newton coach Tim Moore looks on.

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WEEK OF 2-11-08

THE TIMES/CHRIS ALLEN BAKER

Morton Panthers' Antonio Hughes, center, signed a national letter of intent last Wednesday to play football for East Central Community College as a wide receiver. Celebrating the signing occasion was his father, Cedric Brown, left, and head football coach David Parker.

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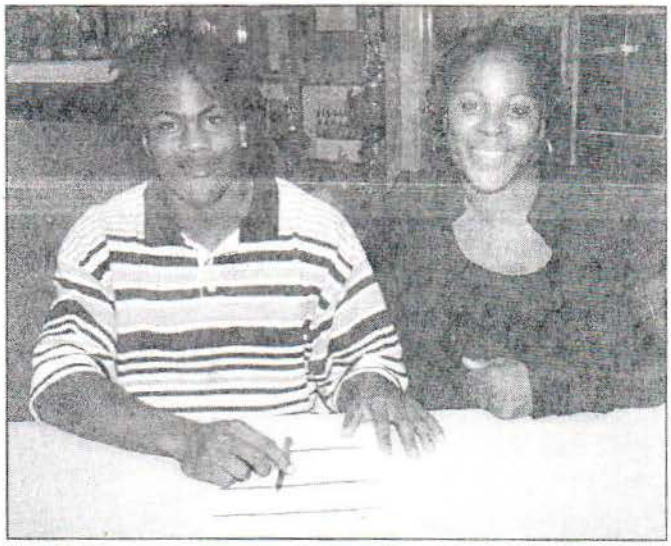
WEEK OF 2-25-08



Darius Spencer (seated left), a standout football player at A.C. Reynolds High School in Asheville, N.C., signed a national letter of intent to continue his athletic career at East Central Community College. Spencer, a 5-foot-10, 183-pound running back, rushed for 1,300-plus yards and scored 28 touchdowns during the 2007 season in helping lead his team to an 8-3 record. A.C. Reynolds finished 11-1 during his junior season. Spencer rushed for more than 2,600 yards during his high school career. His honors include All-Conference, All-Prep and All-Star. He is shown with his mother, Sherry Ray Burrell, of Asheville, during a recent scholarship signing ceremony held on the ECCC campus.

EC photo

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WEEK OF 2-25-08

EC Photo

Signs with Miles College

East Central Community College linebacker David Brackett has signed a national letter of letter to continue his athletic career at Miles College, located in Birmingham, Ala. Brackett, a 6-1, 190-pound product of Philadelphia High School, finished third in the state in tackles in 2007 with 81 solo stops and 30 assists. In recognition of his outstanding season, Brackett was named honorable mention J.C. Grid-Wire All-American and second team MACJC All-State. He also received the Warriors' defensive team captain award. Pictured with the new Golden Bear is ECCC assistant coach James Miller.

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WEEK OF 3-9-08

ECCC football team tryouts set Feb. 15 in Decatur

Tryouts for the 2008 East Central Community College football team are scheduled Friday, Feb. 15, announced Steve Cheatham, recently named head coach.

Coach Cheatham said registration begins at 10 a.m. at the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

Participants need to provide the following equipment: helmet, shoulder pads, pants pads, cleats, tennis shoes, practice pants, jersey, shorts and T-shirt.

Cost is $5, which is needed to cover insurance.

For more information contact the ECCC Football Office, Phone 601-635-2111, exts. 290, 348, 244 or 371. The email address is scheatham@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF May 12, 2008

Golf Tournament Planned Benefitting ECCC Football Program

A three-person scramble is scheduled Saturday, May 31, 2008, at Beaver Creek Golf Club as a fund-raiser for the East Central Community College football program. A shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. begins the one-day event. Cost is $30 per person, which includes lunch.

Hole sponsorships are also available at $100. Participants have the opportunity to win various door prizes, which include a La-Z-Boy chair and ottoman.

For more information contact Coach Brian Anderson, Phone 601-635-6244 or Chris Clark, Phone 601-635-6245.

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THE PHILADELPHIAN X

WEEK OF March 24

ECCC to wrap up spring drills with scrimmage today

Spring drills will conclude today for the East Central Community College football team with an intra-squad game getting under way at 1 p.m. at Bailey Stadium on the Decatur campus.

There is no charge for admission to the approximately one-hour scrimmage. New head coach Steve Cheatham said he has been pleased with his team's progress during the spring workouts, which are limited to 20 days of practice.

"We've made a lot of progress but we still have a few pieces of the puzzle to put together," Cheatham stated.

Among the key returnees for the Warriors is running back Maurice Langston, a former Northeast Lauderdale standout.

Members of Cheatham's staff include James Miller; Brian Anderson; Kyle Watson; Fredrick Lyons; and Brian Jones.

Anderson, the offensive coordinator, is the only newcomer to the staff, having served as head coach at Grenada after stints as the head coach at Philadelphia and an assistant at Meridian High.

—from combined reports

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

Cheatham hopes for quick finish better start,

From Combined reports

The Steve Cheatham era begins on the road for the new East Central Community College head football coach, as the Warriors travel to Coahoma Community College Thursday, Aug. 28. Kickoff for the non-division battle is set for 7 p.m. on the Clarksdale campus.

East Central's home opener is set the following Thursday against Holmes Community College, with kickoff scheduled for 6:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium.

The Warriors begin MACJC South Division action against visiting Hinds Community College at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 11.

"We hope we can get off to a good start," Cheatham said. "Those are two games we feel good about. We have a chance to go into that division opener agains Hinds 2-0. We were 2-0 last year when we got beat by Jones in the last minutes and that was sort of a turning point for the season for us. We never really recovered from that. Had we won that one, it's no telling what we could have one. We have to win those close one this year."

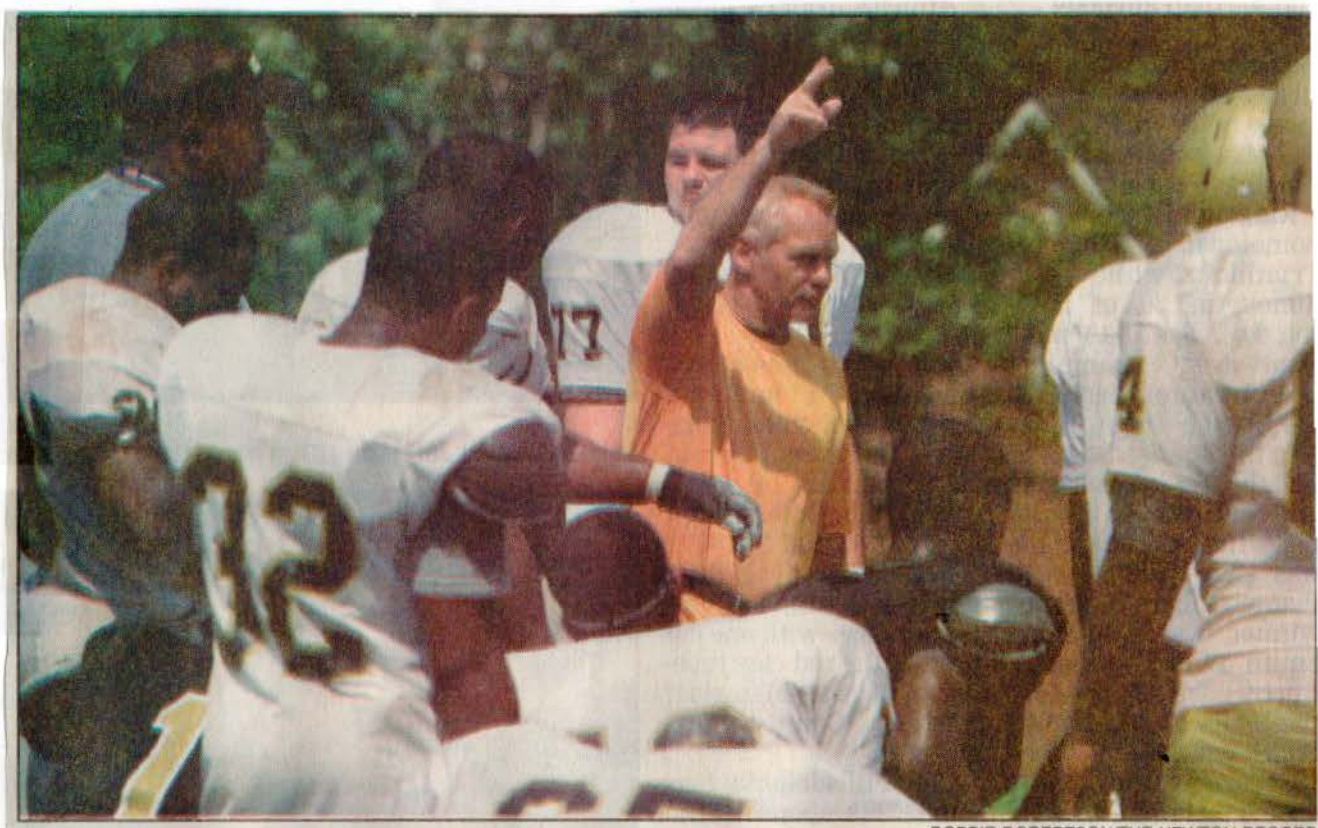
East Central hosts Southwest Mississippi Community College for homecoming on Saturday, Sept. 27. Kickoff is set for 2:30 p.m.

The final home game is scheduled at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 16 against Copiah-Lincoln Community College.

Additional road games are scheduled with Jones County Junior College, at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 18 in Ellisville; Northeast Mississippi Community College, at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 2 in Booneville; Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, at 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11 in Perkinston; and the season finale with Pearl River Community College, at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 23 in Poplarville.

All ECCC football games can be heard on KICKS 98 (98.3) featuring veteran broadcasters Melvin Wooten and Gilbert Barham.

Cheatham and his staff are



ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central football coach Steve Cheatham talks with his defensive players during a pre-season scrimmage last year. Cheatham takes over as head coach after serving as defensive coordinator under Terry Underwood last year.

ECCC

From Page 1B

wrapping up the summer where they have had about 28 freshman on campus taking classes and lifting weights.

"It's been a good summer," Cheatham said. "We have had about 28 working out. Most of them are freshman and it gets them acclimated to what we are doing and how we do things. They also get to take some classes and get a head start classes."

After having the summer to assess his first recruiting class, Cheatham is cautiously encouraged.

"You never know how good they are going to be," Cheatham said of his incoming freshmen. "Coach Miller, who has been here several years, says it is one of the better classes that he has had in a while. We feel good about the guys we have coming in and the guys we have coming back. We have had a few transfers that should help us out as well. We're just ready to get them on the field and see what they are like in pads."

Cheatham said the team will report on Aug. 6 and practice that afternoon. They must practice once a day for three days and then they are able to practice twice a day, followed by once a day.

The Warriors will also add a wrinkle to the preseason practice as they travel to Northwest Community College and will practice against the Rangers, coached by former South Panola coach Ricky Woods.

WEEK OF July 21, 2008

ECCC Football Warriors Moving On

Continuing their athletic careers are these members of the 2007 East Central Community College football squad. Seated from left are John Bailey of Tuscaloosa, Ala.; who signed with Birmingham Southern University; Frederick Lyons of Decatur, who inked with the University of North Alabama; and Spencer Spane of Terry, a new addition to the University of Central Arkansas squad. Bailey, a 6-foot, 250-pound offensive lineman, was a two-year starter at ECCC. He was named honorable mention MACJC All-State his sophomore season. Lyons, a 5-foot-10, 175-pound cornerback, was named honorable mention All-State and All-Star. He was also selected a Grid-Wire Academic All-American. Lyons registered 28 solo tackles and 18 assists. Spane was selected honorable mention All-State and made the All-Star squad. He had 10 catches for 189 yards. Not pictured is quarterback Deon Williams who signed with the University of West Alabama. Williams was chosen second team All-State and All-Star. He completed 52 of 121 passes for 942 yards and nine touchdowns. He also had 40 rushes for 476 yards. Also pictured are (standing) ECCC assistant football coach Fred Lyons (father of Fredrick Lyons) and former ECCC athletic director/head football coach Terry Underwood.

APPEARED IN:

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF July 21, 2008

ECCC Football Schedule Includes Four Home Contests

The Steve Cheatham era begins on the road for the new East Central Community College head football coach, as the Warriors travel to Coahoma Community College Thursday, August 28. Kickoff for the non-division battle is set for 7 p.m. on the Clarksdale campus.

East Central's home opener is set the following Thursday against Holmes Community College, with kickoff scheduled for 6:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium.

The Warriors begin MACJC South Division action against visiting Hinds Community College at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, September 11.

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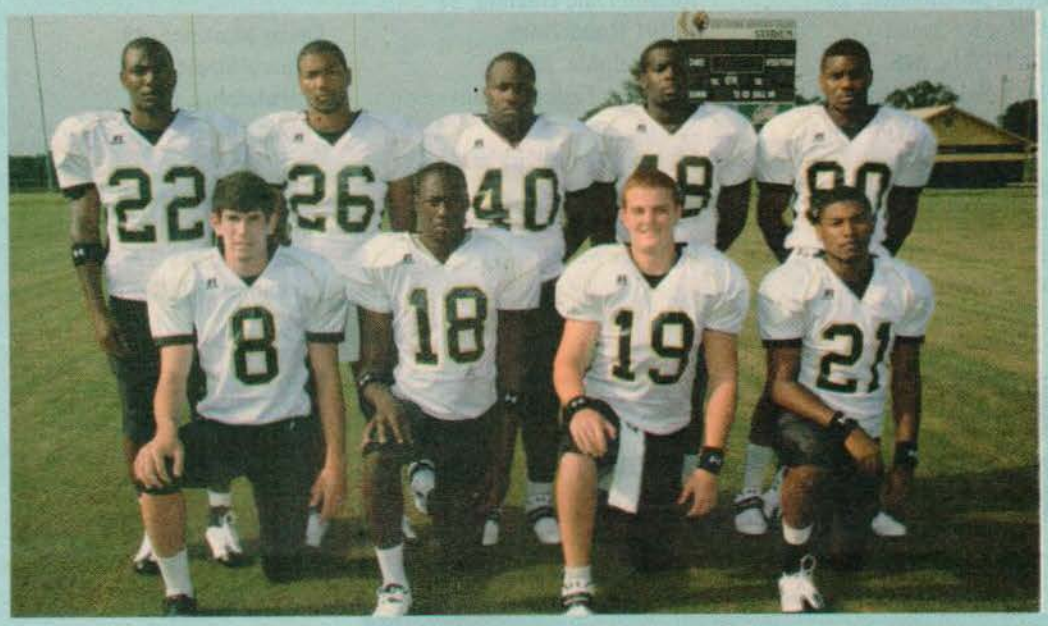
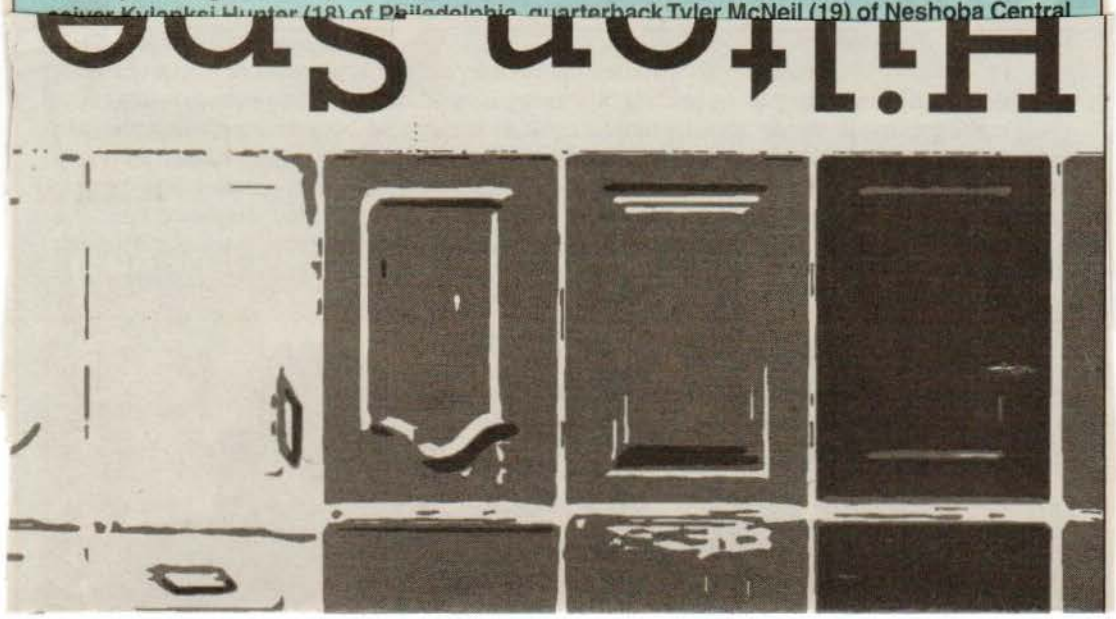
THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF August 18, 2008

Neshoba County 'Warriors'



Neshoba County members of the 2008 East Central Community College football team include (kneeling from left) kicker/punter Derek Crenshaw (8) of Neshoba Central, wide receiver Kylonkei Hunter (18) of Philadelphia, quarterback Tyler McNeil (19) of Neshoba Central



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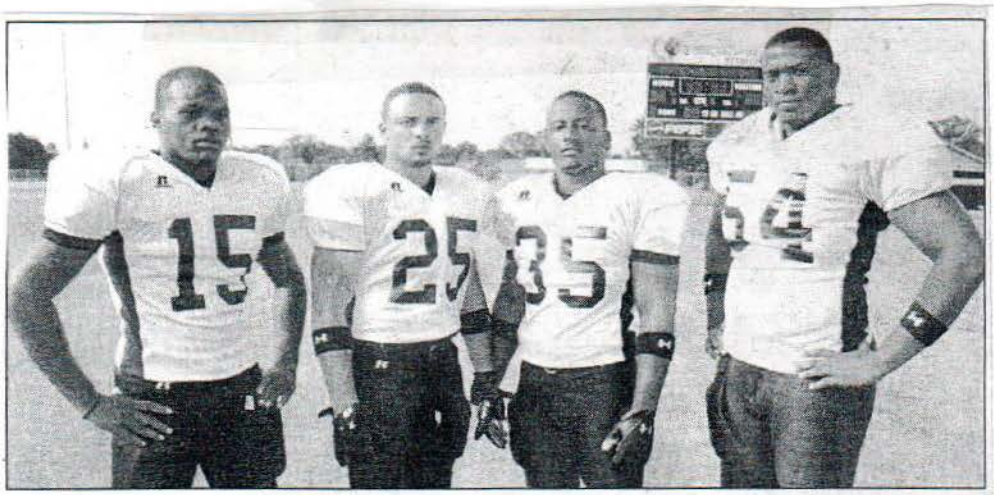
THE PHILADELPHIAN ✓

OF August 25, 2008



Newton County Warriors

Football players at East Central Community College in 2008 from Newton County high schools are (from left) Quadarius Wallace from Union High School, Duke Hudnall and Guy Holden, both from Newton County High School; and Chucky Curry from Newton.

ECCC photo

ECCC...

Continued from page 27...

changed the total complexity of the offense — from a power football team to a spread-finesse team — but our linemen have adjusted well to the change. I really think the new scheme fits them a little better."

Defensively, top returnees include ends Josh Lewis (6-5, 235) of Tuscaloosa County and Vonzell Jackson (6-3, 240) of Aliceville (Ala.) High School; linebackers Harvey Brown (5-10, 235) of Neshoba Central, Randy Carter (6-1, 198) of Quitman, and Anthony McDonald (5-11, 234) of 71st High School, Fayetteville, N.C.; and defensive back, Bruce Williams (6-4, 190) of Ridgeland. Sophomore Jason Fairley (5-11, 285) of Collins and freshman James Brown (6-4, 302) of Tuscaloosa Central are the top contenders at the defensive tackle positions.

"Our defensive front is really doing well," Cheatham said. "We were kind of worried when (nose guard) Henry Scott (of Will Rogers High School in Tulsa, OK) left the team for disciplinary reasons, but we've got two freshmen — Jeremy Johnson (6-2, 280) of Lake and Percy Callaway (6-3, 308) of Central Lafourche, La., who are both playing well."

Johnson is a three-time state champion power lifter. "He's unbelievably strong," Cheatham noted. He also recognized McDonald for his strength. "Anthony only weighs 230, but can bench press 400 pounds!"

Cheatham also praised for Lewis and Jackson, both of whom are attracting a lot of attention from several Division I programs.

"They're great football players and both have a lot of potential to compete at the next level," he stated.

Cheatham said he is also pleased with the entire linebacker corps, which includes freshmen Guy Holden (5-11, 200) of Newton County, Quadarius Wallace (5-11, 193) of Union, Chris Watson (6-0, 206) of West Lauderdale, and Brad Ellis (5-11, 235) of Forest.

In the secondary, sophomore Maurice Langston (5-10, 180) of Northeast Lauderdale and freshman Caylem Estelle (5-10, 195) will handle cornerback duties. Cheatham said Langston will also see action at running back. Serving as backups at cornerback are freshmen Ken Robinson (6-0, 180) of Neshoba Central, who participated in spring drills, and Zerrick Houston (6-0, 175) of Philadelphia. Also expected to see action at cornerback is Demario Eichelberger (6-1, 165) of Louisville.

The two safeties are returnees Jarvis Wilson (6-1, 195) of Central Lafourche and Bruce Williams (6-4, 190) of Ridgeland. Sophomores Clint Coleman (6-2, 202) of Louisville and Eiljah Tanksley (6-3, 186) of Meridian will also see playing time at safety.

"We've got a lot more speed on defense this year," Cheatham added. "We may not be as big up front but we will be faster, stronger and quicker."

Cheatham said he is "very pleased" with the kicking game. Returnee Derek Crenshaw (6-2, 185) of Neshoba Central will handle kicking and punting duties. Freshman Will McBeth of Leake Academy is the center and long snapper. Sophomore Dustin Alley (6-0, 196) of Union Grove High School, McDonough, Ga., will be the holder for extra points and field goals.

Langston, Estelle, May, and Ricks will return punts and kickoffs.

Serving as Cheatham's assistants are James Miller, assistant head coach and defensive coordinator; Brian Anderson, offensive coordinator; Fred Lyons, defensive line coach; Kyle Watson, offensive line coach and special teams coordinator; and Derek Pouncey, wide receivers coach.

"We've got a great group of guys on staff," Cheatham stated. "We enjoy working together every day."

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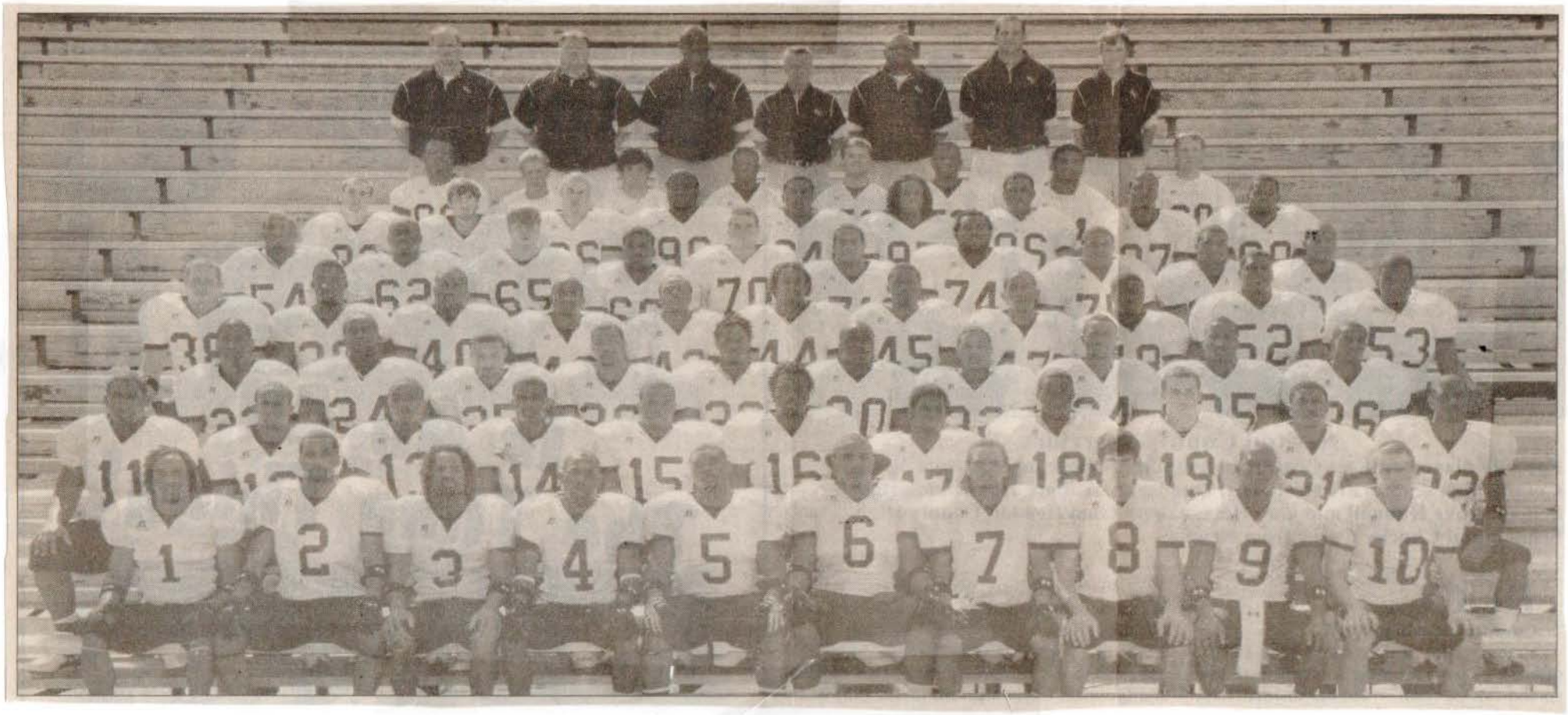

Cheatham takes over at ECCC

from school reports

"Win baby win!"

That phrase is mostly attributed to Al Davis, owner of the NFL's Oakland Raiders.

The same slogan can be applied to the 2008 East Central Community College football squad. But first-year head coach Steve Cheatham said winning "on the field" is just part of the equation.

"We want our players to not only be winners on the scoreboard but also in the classroom and in everyday life," said the 30-year coaching veteran. "That's why we have adopted as this year's slogan, 'Winning Is An All-The-Time Thing,' and we are stressing that fact to our players."

Cheatham, who took over the Warrior football program at mid-year following the resignation of his former boss, Terry Underwood, said "winning games" is the result of a "winning attitude."

"If you can be a winner in all you do, especially when no one is looking," Cheatham explained, "then good things will be the result."

Cheatham and his squad will have their first opportunity at "winning" a football game when the Warriors travel to Coahoma Community College on Thursday. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. on the Clarksdale campus.

East Central defeated the Tigers 32-21 to conclude the Warriors' 3-6 campaign in 2007. The Coahoma squad is coached by former Warrior assistant Freeman Horton, a former football standout at the University of Southern Mississippi and Lake High School.

Steve Cheatham

Cheatham, a former high school head coach at both Philadelphia and Neshoba Central, said he is "excited but a little nervous" about leading a college football program for the first time. He does have experience on the college level, having served as a graduate assistant at Clemson University and most recently as director of football operations for Coach David Cutcliffe at Ole Miss.

Cheatham said being named head coach took him by surprise.

"I did not expect this (promotion) to happen ... I just wanted to be an assistant coach, finish out my time, have fun and enjoy coaching," Cheatham stated. "We've had a lot to learn in a short period of time and I certainly want to thank Coach Underwood for his help in the transition. I learned a lot from him."

The Warriors began fall workouts in shorts on August 6 and put on the pads for the first time the following Saturday. Eighty-one players originally competed for the 63-man roster.

"Practices have gone very well," Cheatham said. "Our guys are in decent shape and are physically a better football team than last year. We also seem to be a lot stronger."

This year's squad is also a little less experienced. Twenty-three lettermen are gone from 2007 and only 14 letter winners return. Several freshmen are listed as starters.

"We'll probably have three freshmen that will start ... all are very good players and a couple of them were here for spring workouts," said Cheatham.

One such freshman is Emmanual Taylor, a product of Early County High School in Blakely, Ga., who is projected to be the starting quarterback. The 6-foot, 170-pound signal caller was selected JAC Player of the Year in addition to receiving All-State and All-Star honors.

Taylor had touchdown runs of 65 and 46 yards and connected on 38- and 22-yard passes for scores in the Spring game.

Cheatham said Taylor "is doing really well. He's got a good arm, runs well, and has good knowledge of the game."

Taylor's expertise will be put to use in directing the Warriors' new "spread attack" offense.

"We're going to be a wide-open offense," Cheatham said, "but that does not mean that we will throw the ball all the time. We will have a balanced attack and our passing game will feature a lot of short passes, such as screens and slant patterns. We want to get the ball out quick to our receivers and let them make something happen. The spread offense will also help set up our running game."

Wide receivers Kendrick May (5-10, 165) of Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) High School and Donovan Tate (6-2, 195) of Hattiesburg are listed among top offensive returnees.

Courtney Shelton (5-10, 220) of Tuscaloosa is regarded as the top returning running back, but Cheatham said several freshmen are also battling for backfield positions, including Derrick Cade (5-7, 210) of Tuscaloosa Central, Duke Hudnall (5-11, 200) from Newton County and Kendrick Griffin (6-0, 182) of Philadelphia.

Top returnees on the offensive line include Kieandre Jones (6-4, 345) of Hillcrest High School in Tuscaloosa; Justin Moore (6-3, 265) of Leake Academy, Quinton Scott (6-2, 340) of DeSoto Central; Robert Gaskin (6-1, 280) of West Point, and Matthew Lewis (6-1, 270) of Forrest County AHS.

"All five linemen played a good bit last year, so we feel good about their experience going into this year," Cheatham said. "We've

Continued on page 28...
See ECCC...

Another 'Coach Pouncey' Joins ECCC Football Staff

A familiar name to followers of East Central Community College athletics has joined the Warrior football coaching staff for the 2008 campaign.

Derek Pouncey, nephew of former ECCC head football coach Ken Pouncey, has joined Steve Cheatham's staff and will serve as wide receivers coach.

"Derek is a huge asset to our football program," Cheatham said. "He's a great coach who not only has knowledge of the game but also has experience with computers and video equipment. We're just very glad to have him as a member of our staff." The younger Pouncey said following his uncle as a member of the Warrior coaching staff "is complete and total excitement."

"To be on the same field as my uncle coached for those many years is a great thrill for me," Derek stated. "It's just pretty awesome being here."

Derek said he also looks forward to talking with his uncle and receiving advice.

"I've been told I need get out to his house and do a sit-down with him over coffee," Derek said. "I know it's coming…it's just a matter of getting the time to go out there."

Ken Pouncey led the Warrior football program from 1967-81 and won several division titles. He was inducted into the College's Athletic Hall of Fame in 2004.

Derek Pouncey

Derek Pouncey's father is also a former coach.

"Dad coached a long time at Northwest Junior High School in Meridian and in Alabama. He coached football, basketball, baseball….he did it all," said the new Warrior assistant. "We're just a family full of coaches."

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Derek Pouncey served from 2006-08 as assistant head coach, line coach and teacher at Kemper County High School.

He was offensive line coach and teacher at Meridian High School in 2005-06 and helped lead the Wildcats to the South State 5A Championship.

Pouncey served the previous year as defensive coordinator, wide receivers coach and teacher for Philadelphia Public Schools.

He is also a former athletic director and head football coach at Northwest Junior High School and was performing arts instructor at Meridian High School from 2000-03. In 2003, he was selected as a Coca Cola National Educator of Distinction.

He began his coaching career in 1998 as an assistant football coach at Kate Griffin Junior High School, when he was also named performing arts instructor at MHS.

A Meridian native, Pouncey is a 1993 graduate of West Lauderdale High School and received a bachelor's degree in psychology from Mississippi College in 1998.

His parents are Curt and Cythia Pouncey of Meridian.

WEEK OF August 25, 2008

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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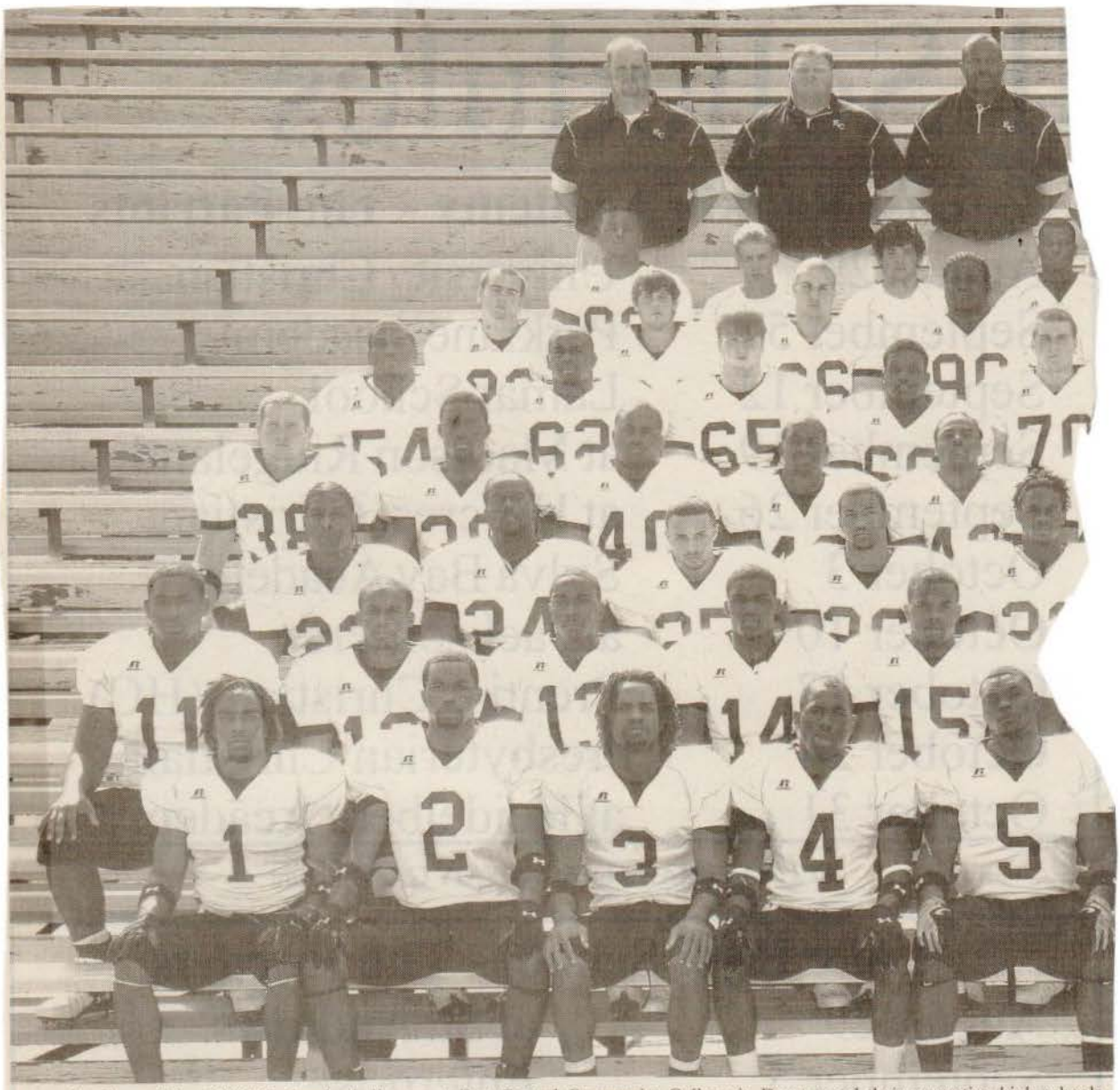
THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF August 25, 2008



Members of the 2008 Warrior football team at East Central Community College in Decatur and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) cornerback Maurice Langston (1), Northeast Lauderdale; free safety Bruce Williams (2), Ridgeland; rover safety Jarvis Wilson (3), Central Lafourche (La.); wide receiver Kendrick May (4), Tuscaloosa County; running back Courtney Shelton (5), Tuscalooosa Central; defensive end Vonzell Jackson (6), Aliceville (Ala.); wide receiver Lamar Truman (7), Northeast Lauderdale; kicker/punter Derek Crenshaw (8), Neshoba Central; quarterback Emmanuel Taylor (9), Early County (Ga.); and wide receiver Dustin Alley (10), Union Grove (Ga.); (second row, from left) tight end Josh Wiliams (11), Lanier; cornerback C.J. Estelle (12), Childersburg (Ala.); rover safety Clint Coleman (13), Louisville; wide receiver Donovan Tate (14), Hattiesburg; linebacker Quadarius Wallace (15), Union; defensive end Josh Lewis (16), Tuscaloosa County (Ala.); wide receiver Antonio Ricks (17), Carthage; wide receiver Kylanski Hunter (18), Philadelphia; quarterback Tyler McNeil (19), Neshoba Central; cornerback Zerrick Houston (21), Philadelphia; and cornerback Ken Robinson (22), Neshoba Central; (third row, from left) wide receiver Antonio Hughes (23), Morton; linebacker Brad Ellis (24), Forest; running back Duke Hudnall (25), Newton County; running back Ken Griffin (26), Philadelphia; cornerback Preston Felder (28), Meridian; running back Derrick Cade (30), Tuscaloosa Central (Ala.); running back Marcus Travis (32), Perry Central; free safety Elijah Tanksley (34), Meridian; linebacker Guy Holden (35), Newton County; and cornerback Demario Eichelberger (36), Louisville; (fourth row, from left) linebacker Chris Watson (38), West Lauderdale; linebacker Randy Carter (39), Quitman; linebacker Harvey Brown (40), Neshoba Central; rover safety Rashad Horne (42), Quitman; running back Quan Richards (43), Hillcrest (Ala.); linebacker Anthony McDonald (44), 71st High School (NC); defensive end Jeremy Dillon (45), Forrest County AHS; linebacker Damarcus Lewis (47),

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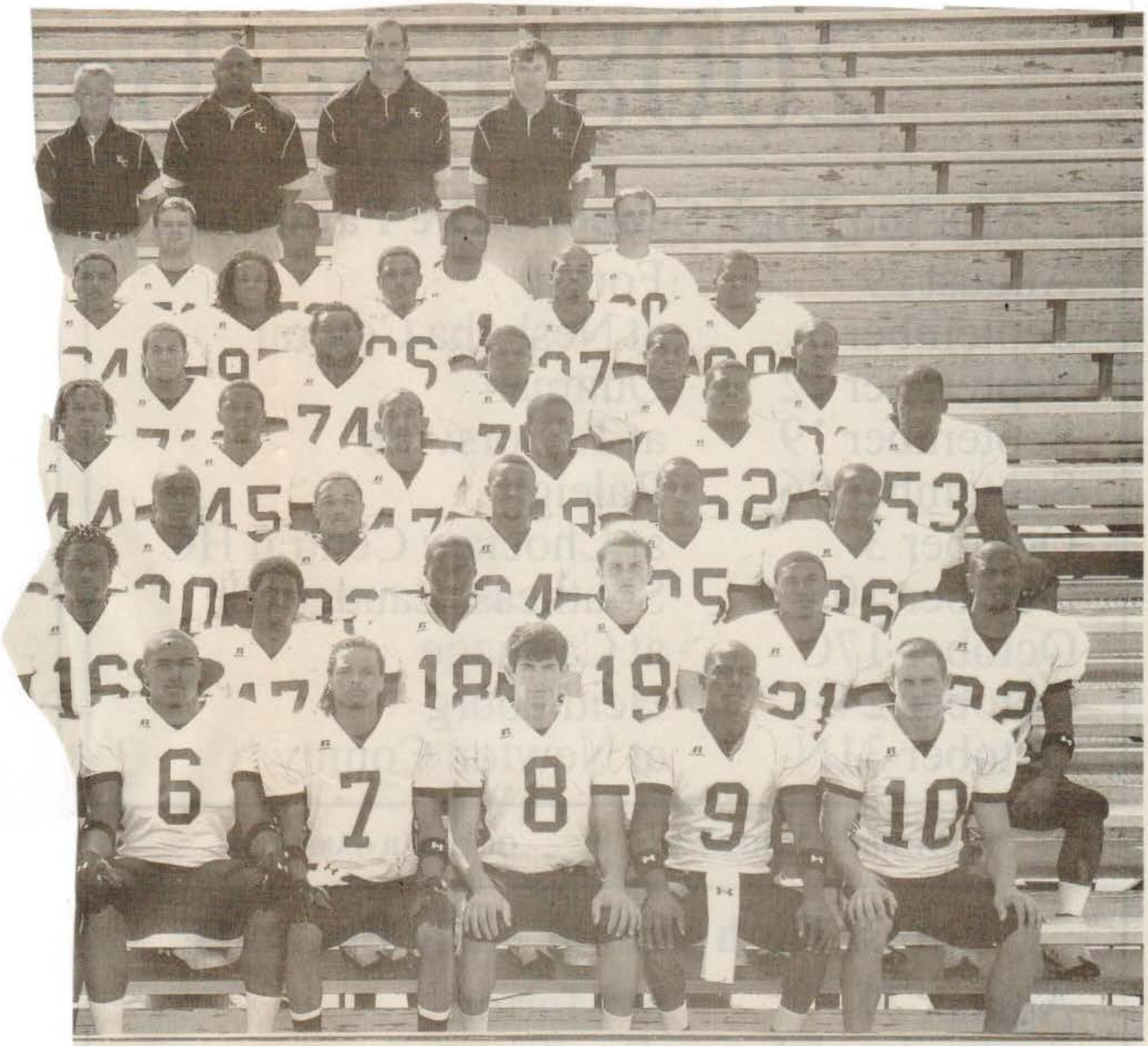
THE PHILADELPHIAN ✓



Quitman; linebacker Kindrick Lyons (48) Philadelphia; offensive lineman Quintin Scott (52), DeSoto Central; and offensive lineman Terry Sparkman (53), South Leake; (fifth row, from left) offensive lineman Chuckie Curry (54), Newton; offensive lineman Damion Young (62), Pelahatchie; offensive lineman Justin Moore (65), Leake Academy; offensive lineman Robert Gaston (66), West Point; offensive lineman Jarred Flemming (70), Louisville; offensive lineman Matthew Lewis (71), Forrest County AHS; offensive lineman Kieandre Jones (74) Hillcrest (Ala.); offensive lineman Lorenzo Hollis (75), Morton; wide receiver Tevin Houston (80), Philadelphia; and wide receiver Radarius Owens (81), Quitman; (sixth row, from left) free safety Zach Jay (83), West Lauderdale; long snapper/tight end Will McBeth (84), Leake Academy; tight end Andrew Perkins (86), Northwest Rankin; defensive tackle James Brown (90), Tuscaloosa Central (Ala.); nose guard Percy Calloway (94), Central Lafourche (La.); defensive end Anthony McMillian (95), Heidelberg; defensive tackle Jasen Fairley (96), Collins; defensive end Cedric Hall (97), Carthage; and nose guard Jeremy Johnson (99), Lake; (seventh row, from left) managers Roosevelt Cunningham, West Point; Zach Evans and Michael Duncan, both of Nanih Waiya; Lamarrius Childress, Louisville; Corey Kelly, Lake; L.A. Jones, Carthage; Canvies Triplett, Philadelphia; and Hailey Moody, Nanih Waiya; and (back row, from left) coaches Kyle Watson (offensive line and special teams), Derek Pouncey (wide receivers), Fredrick Lyons (defensive linemen), Steve Cheatham (head coach), James Miller (assistant head coach and defensive coordinator), and Brian Anderson (offensive coordinator); and athletic trainer Derek Jones with the Rush Sports Medicine Team. Not pictured are running back Darrius Spencer (46), Ashleville (NC); wide receiver Brandon Tarriol (82), Jackson; and manager Jared Holloway, Neshoba Central. The Warriors begin season action at 7 p.m. on Thursday, August 28 when they travel to Clarksdale to take on Coahoma Community College. (EC Photo

Cheatham Stresses Winning Attitude As ECCC

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Warriors Prepare for Season

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"We've got a great group of guys on staff," Cheatham stated. "We enjoy working together every day."

ECCC Football Coaches Leading the East Central Community College football team for the 2008 campaign are coaches (kneeling from left) Brian Anderson, offensive coordinator; Steve Cheatham, head coach; and James Miller, assistant head coach/ defensive coordinator; and (standing from left) Kyle Watson, offensive line/special teams; Derek Pouncey, wide receivers; and Fredrick Lyons, defensive line. Also pictured is athletic trainer Derrick Jones of Rush Sports Medicine. The Warriors begin season action Thursday, August 28 at Coahoma Community College. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. on the Clarksdale campus. (EC Photo)

Scott County 'Warriors'...Scott County members of the 2008 East Central Community College football team include (from left) wide receiver Antonio Hughes (23) of Morton, linebacker Brad Ellis (24) of Forest, offensive lineman Lorenzo Hillis (75) of Morton and nose guard Jeremy Johnson (99) of Lake. The Warriors begin season action Thursday, August 28 at Coahoma Community Collge. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. on the Clarksdale campus. ECCC is led by first-year head coach Steve Cheatham. (EC Photo)

is projected to be the starting quarterback. The 6', 170-pound signal caller was selected JAC (spell out) Player of the Year in addition to receiving All-State and All-Star honors.

Taylor had touchdown runs of 65 and 46 yards and connected on 38- and 22- yard passes for scores in the spring game.

Cheatham said Taylor "is doing really well. He's got a good arm, runs well and has good knowledge of the game."

Taylor's expertise will be put to use in directing the Warriors' new "spread attack" offense.

"We're going to be a wide-open offense," Cheatham stated, "but that does not mean that we will throw the ball all the time. We will have a balanced attack and our passing game will feature a lot of short passes, such as screens and slant patterns. We want to get the ball out quick to our receivers and let them make something happen. The spread offense will also help set up our running game."

Wide receivers, Kendrick May (5-10, 165) of Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) High School and Donovan Tate (6-2, 195) of Hattiesburg, are listed among top offensive returnees. Courtney Shelton (5-10, 220) of Tuscaloosa is regarded as the top returning running back, but Cheatham said several freshmen are also battling for backfield positions, including Derrick Cade (5-7, 210) of Tuscaloosa Central, Duke Hudnall (5-11, 200) from Newton County and Kendrick Griffin (6', 182) of Philadelphia.

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The two safeties are returnees Jarvis Wilson (6-1, 195) of Central Lafourche and Bruce Williams (6-4, 190) of Ridgeland. Sophomores Clint Coleman (6-2, 202) of Louisville and Eiljah Tanksley (6-3, 186) of Meridian will also see playing time at safety.

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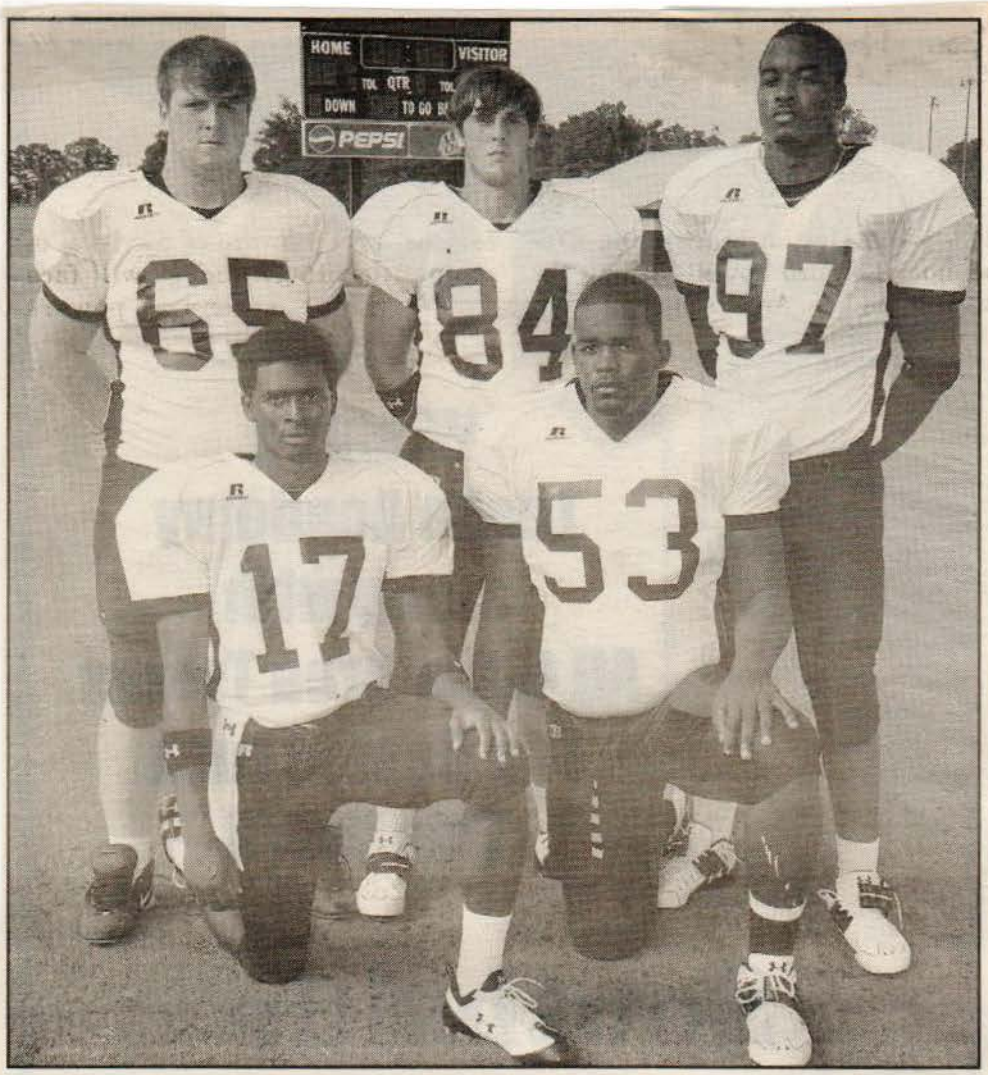
WEEK OF August 25, 2008



Leake County members of the East Central Warriors are, from left, kneeling, receiver Antonio Ricks of Carthage and offensive lineman Terry Sparkman of South Leake; and, standing, offensive lineman Justin Moore and long snapper/tight end Will McBeth, both of Leake Academy; and defensive end Cedric Hall of Carthage. (EC Photo)

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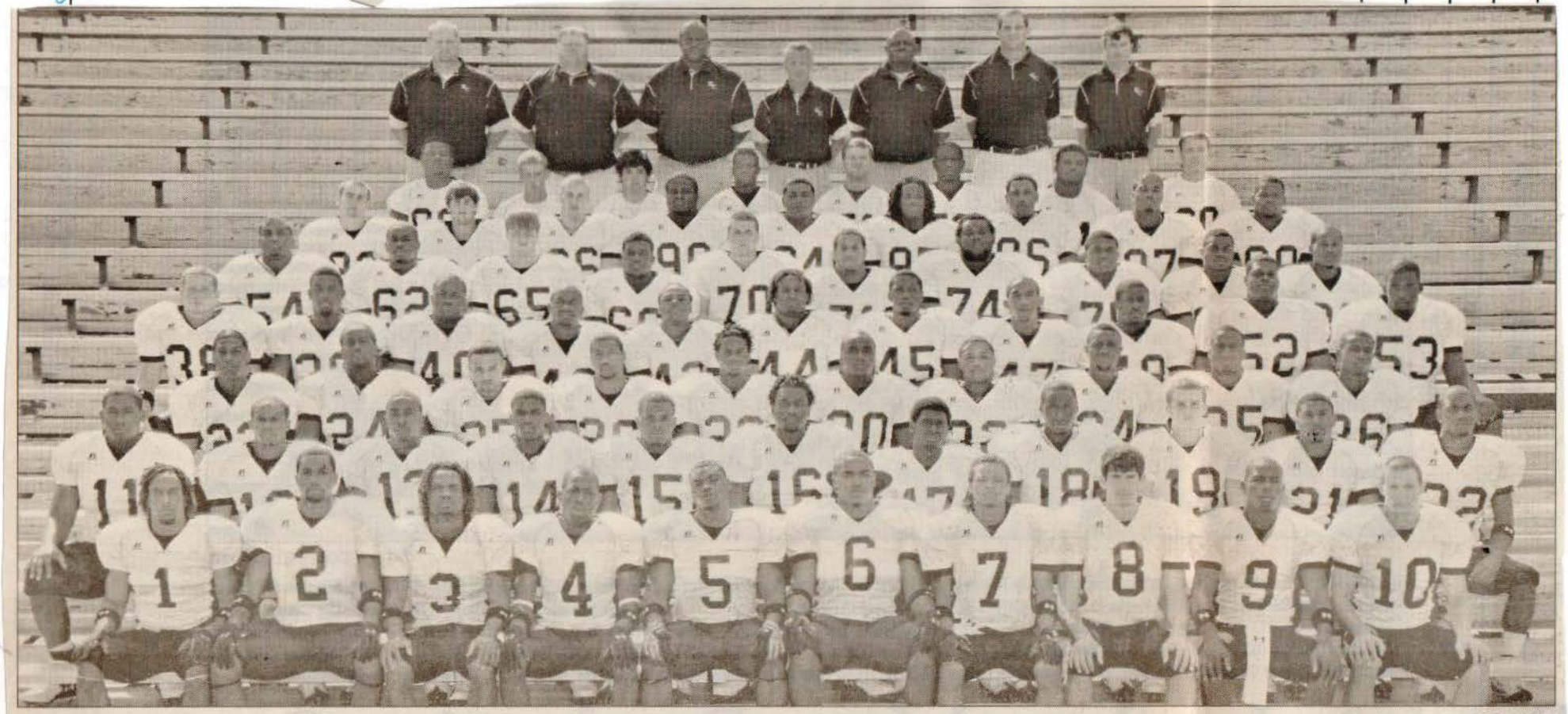

ECCC PHOTO

Members of the 2008 Warrior football team at East Central Community College in Decatur and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) cornerback Maurice Langston (1), Northeast Lauderdale; free safety Bruce Williams (2), Ridgeland; rover safety Jarvis Wilson (3), Central Lafourche (La.); wide receiver Kendrick May (4), Tuscaloosa County; running back Courtney Shelton (5), Tuscalooosa Central; defensive end Vonzell Jackson (6), Aliceville (Ala.); wide receiver Lamar Truman (7), Northeast Lauderdale; kicker/punter Derek Crenshaw (8), Neshoba Central; quarterback Emmanuel Taylor (9), Early County (Ga.); and wide receiver Dustin Alley (10), Union Grove (Ga.); (second row, from left) tight end Josh Wiliams (11), Lanier; cornerback C.J. Estelle (12), Childersburg (Ala.); rover safety Clint Coleman (13), Louisville; wide receiver Donovan Tate (14), Hattiesburg; linebacker Quadarius Wallace (15), Union; defensive end Josh Lewis (16), Tuscaloosa County (Ala.); wide receiver Antonio Ricks (17), Carthage; wide receiver Kylanski Hunter (18), Philadelphia; quarterback Tyler McNeil (19), Neshoba Central; cornerback Zerrick Houston (21), Philadelphia; and cornerback Ken Robinson (22), Neshoba Central; (third row, from left) ***wide receiver Antonio Hughes (23), Morton; linebacker Brad Ellis (24), Forest***; running back Duke Hudnall (25), Newton County; running back Ken Griffin (26), Philadelphia; cornerback Preston Felder (28), Meridian; running back Derrick Cade (30), Tuscaloosa Central (Ala.); running back Marcus Travis (32), Perry Central; free safety Elijah Tanksley (34), Meridian; linebacker Guy Holden (35), Newton County; and cornerback Demario Eichelberger (36), Louisville; (fourth row, from left) linebacker Chris Watson (38), West Lauderdale; linebacker Randy Carter (39), Quitman; linebacker Harvey Brown (40), Neshoba Central; rover safety Rashad Horne (42), Quitman; running back Quan Richards (43), Hillcrest (Ala.); linebacker Anthony McDonald (44), 71st High School (NC); defensive end Jeremy Dillon (45), Forrest County AHS; linebacker Damarcus Lewis (47), Quitman; linebacker Kindrick Lyons (48) Philadelphia; offensive lineman Quintin Scott (52), DeSoto Central; and offensive lineman Terry Sparkman (53), South Leake; (fifth row, from left) offensive lineman Chuckie Curry (54), Newton; offensive lineman Damion Young (62), Pelahatchie; offensive lineman Justin Moore (65), Leake Academy; offensive lineman Robert Gaston (66), West Point; offensive lineman Jarred Flemming (70), Louisville; offensive lineman Matthew Lewis (71), Forrest County AHS; offensive lineman Kieandre Jones (74) Hillcrest (Ala.); ***offensive lineman Lorenzo Hollis (75), Morton***; wide receiver Tevin Houston (80), Philadelphia; and wide receiver Radarius Owens (81), Quitman; (sixth row, from left) free safety Zach Jay (83), West Lauderdale; long snapper/tight end Will McBeth (84), Leake Academy; tight end Andrew Perkins (86), Northwest Rankin; defensive tackle James Brown (90), Tuscaloosa Central (Ala.); nose guard Percy Calloway (94), Central Lafourche (La.); defensive end Anthony McMillian (95), Heidelberg; defensive tackle Jasen Fairley (96), Collins; defensive end Cedric Hall (97), Carthage; and nose guard ***Jeremy Johnson (99), Lake***; (seventh row, from left) managers Roosevelt Cunningham, West Point; Zach Evans and Michael Duncan, both of Nanih Waiya; Lamarrius Childress, Louisville; ***Corey Kelly, Lake***; L.A. Jones, Carthage; Canvies Triplett, Philadelphia; and Hailey Moody, Nanih Waiya; and (back row, from left) coaches Kyle Watson (offensive line and special teams), Derek Pouncey (wide receivers), Fredrick Lyons (defensive linemen), Steve Cheatham (head coach), James Miller (assistant head coach and defensive coordinator), and Brian Anderson (offensive coordinator); and athletic trainer Derek Jones with the Rush Sports Medicine Team. Not pictured are running back Darrius Spencer (46), Ashleville (NC); wide receiver Brandon Tarriol (82), Jackson; and manager Jared Holloway, Neshoba Central.

ECCC Warriors Prepare for Season

New Coach Takes Helm Of Warrior Football

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—"Win baby win!"

That phrase is mostly attributed to Al Davis, owner of the NFL Oakland Raiders.

The same slogan can be applied to the 2008 East Central Community College football squad. But first-year head coach Steve Cheatham said winning "on the field" is just part of the equation.

"We want our players to not only be winners on the scoreboard but also in the classroom and in everyday life," said the 30-year coaching veteran. "That's why we have adopted as this year's slogan, 'Winning Is An All-The-Time Thing,' and we are stressing that fact to our players."

Cheatham

Cheatham, who took over the Warrior football program at mid-year following the resignation of his former boss, Terry Underwood, said "winning games" is the result of a "winning attitude."

"If you can be a winner in all you do, especially when no one is looking," Cheatham explained, "then good things will be the result."

Cheatham and his squad will have their first opportunity at "winning" a football game when the Warriors travel to Coahoma Community College on Thursday, August 28. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. on the Clarksdale campus.

East Central defeated the Tigers 32-21 to conclude the Warriors' 3-6 campaign in 2007. The Coahoma squad is coached by former Warrior assistant Freeman Horton, a former football standout at the University of Southern Mississippi and Lake High School.

Cheatham, a former high school head coach, said he is "excited but a little nervous" about leading a college football program for the first time. He does have experience on the college level, having served as a graduate assistant at Clemson University and most recently as director of football operations for Coach David Cutcliff at the University of Mississippi.

He said being named head coach took him by surprise.

"I did not expect this (promotion) to happen....I just wanted to be an assistant coach, finish out my time, have fun and enjoy coaching,"

Please see WARRIORS, 25

WARRIORS

From Page 16

Cheatham stated. "We've had a lot to learn in a short period of time and I certainly want to thank Coach Underwood for his help in the transition. I learned a lot from him."

The Warriors began Fall workouts in shorts on Wednesday, August 6 and put on the pads for the first time the following Saturday. Eighty-one players originally competed for the 63-man roster.

"Practices have gone very well," Cheatham said. "Our guys are in decent shape and are physically a better football team than last year. We also seem to be a lot stronger."

This year's squad is also a little less experienced. Twenty-three lettermen are gone from 2007 and only 14 letter-winners returned. Several freshmen are listed as starters.

"We'll probably have three freshmen that will start....all are very good players and a couple of them were here for spring workouts," said Cheatham.

One such freshman is Emmanual Taylor, a product of Early County High School in Blakely, Ga., who is projected to be the starting quarterback. The 6', 170-pound signal caller was selected Player of the Year in addition to receiving All-State and All-Star honors.

Taylor had touchdown runs of 65 and 46 yards and connected on 38- and 22- yard passes for scores in the spring game.

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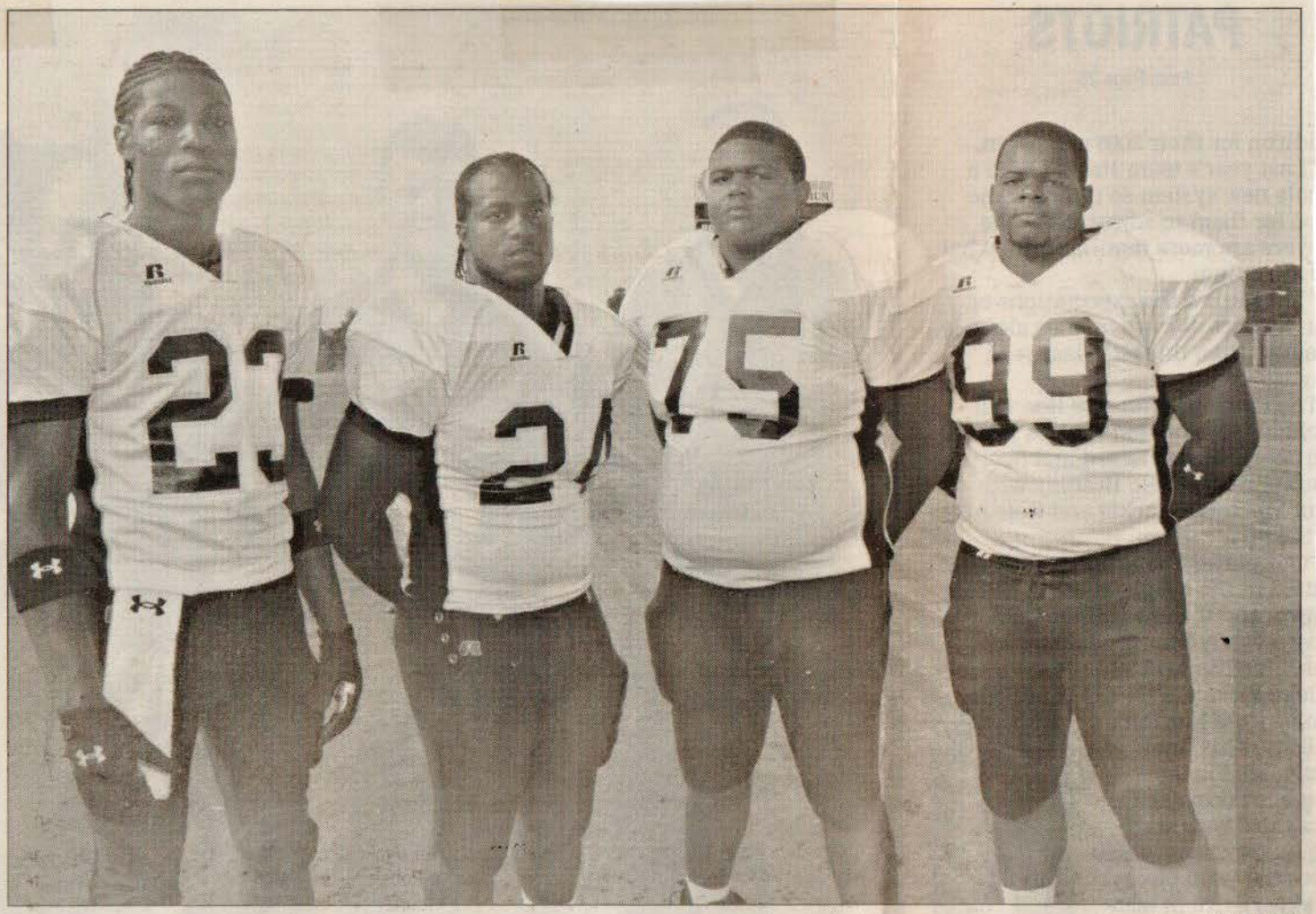

ECCC PHOTO

SCOTT COUNTY 'WARRIORS'

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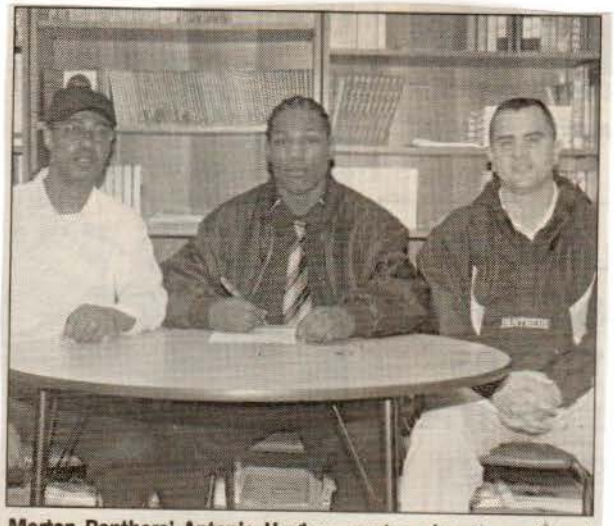
WEEK OF August 25, 2008



Morton Panthers' Antonio Hughes, center, signed a national letter of intent to play football for East Central Community College as a wide receiver. Celebrating the signing occasion was his father, Cedric Brown, left, and head football coach David Parker.

Lake Hornets' Jeremy Johnson, seated right, signed a national letter of intent last week to play football for East Central Community College as a fullback and defensive tackle. Celebrating the signing occasion was his mother, Tammy, seated left, and then head football coach Bill Ingersoll.

Forest Bearcats' Robert Lee Williams, seated right, signed a national letter of intent to play football for East Central Community College as a defensive lineman. Celebrating the signing occasion was his mother, Patricia Smith, seated left. Head football coach Judd Boswell, standing right, and coach Steve Moorehead also participated.

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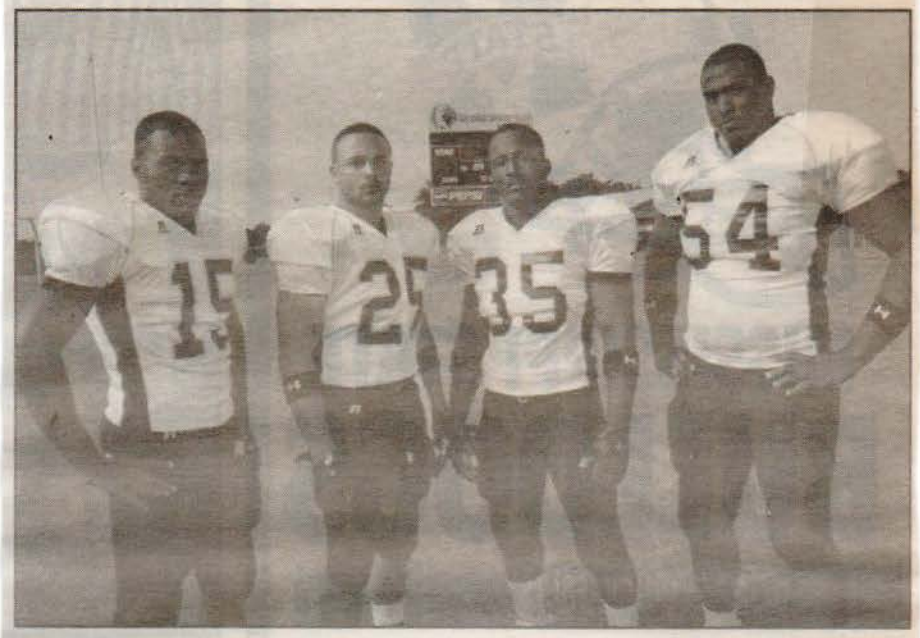
WEEK OF August 25, 2008

COUNTY WARRIORS



ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

Newton County members of the 2008 East Central Community College football team include (from left) linebacker Quadarius Wallace (15) of Union, running back Duke Hudnall (25) and linebacker Guy Holden (35), both of Newton County High School, and offensive lineman Chuckie Curry (54) of Newton. The Warriors begin season action Thursday, August 28 at Coahoma Community College. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. on the Clarksdale campus. ECCC is led by first-year head coach Steve Cheatham.

Another 'Coach Pouncey' joins ECCC football staff

A familiar name to followers of East Central Community College athletics has joined the Warrior football coaching staff for the 2008 campaign.

Derek Pouncey, nephew of former ECCC head football coach Ken Pouncey, has joined Steve Cheatham's staff and will serve as wide receivers coach.

"Derek is a huge asset to our football program," Cheatham said. "He's a great coach who not only has knowledge of the game but also has experience with computers and video equipment. We're just very glad to have him as a member of our staff."

The younger Pouncey said following his uncle as a member of the Warrior coaching staff "is complete and total excitement."

"To be on the same field as my uncle coached for those many years is a great thrill for me," Derek stated. "It's just pretty awesome being here."

talking with his uncle and receiving advice.

"I've been told I need get out to his house and do a sit-down with him over coffee," Derek said. "I know it's coming...it's just a matter of getting the time to go out there."

Ken Pouncey led the Warrior football program from 1967-81 and won several division titles. He was inducted into the College's Athletic Hall of Fame in 2004.

Derek Pouncey's father is also a former coach.

"Dad coached a long time at Northwest Junior High School in Meridian and in Alabama. He coached football, basketball, baseball....he did it all," said the new Warrior assistant. "We're just a family full of coaches."

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Derek Pouncey served from 2006-08 as assistant head coach, line coach and teacher at Kemper County High

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

WEEK OF August 25, 2008

ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central had several close calls last year and will try to turn those close losses into wins this season.

A winning attitude

Cheatham stresses winning attitude in first season

"Win baby win!"

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The same slogan can be applied to the 2008 East Central Community College football squad. But first-year head coach Steve Cheatham said winning "on the field" is just part of the equation.

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The BIG Stat

East Central lost four games last year by a combined 11 points, three of those in the last minutes.

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See **ECCC** Page 43

DEMOCRAT _____
RECORD ✓
STAR _____
LEDGER _____
DELPHIAN _____

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The 2008 East Central Community College football team

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ECCC

From Page 14

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Wide receivers, Kendrick May (5-10, 165) of Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) High School and Donovan Tate (6-2, 195) of Hat-

WEEK OF

Members of the 2008 Warrior football team at East Central Community College in Decatur and their respective high schools include (fro row, from left) cornerback Maurice Langston (1), Northeast Lauderdale; free safety Bruce Williams (2), Ridgeland; rover safety Jarvis Wi son (3), Central Lafourche (La.); wide receiver Kendrick May (4), Tuscaloosa County; running back Courtney Shelton (5), Tuscalooosa Cer tral; defensive end Vonzell Jackson (6), Aliceville (Ala.); wide receiver Lamar Truman (7), Northeast Lauderdale; kicker/punter Derek Cre shaw (8), Neshoba Central; quarterback Emmanuel Taylor (9), Early County (Ga.); and wide receiver Dustin Alley (10), Union Grove (Ga. (second row, from left) tight end Josh Wiliams (11), Lanier; cornerback C.J. Estelle (12), Childersburg (Ala.); rover safety Clint Colema (13), Louisville; wide receiver Donovan Tate (14), Hattiesburg; linebacker Quadarius Wallace (15), Union; defensive end Josh Lewis (16 Tuscaloosa County (Ala.); wide receiver Antonio Ricks (17), Carthage; wide receiver Kylanski Hunter (18), Philadelphia; quarterback Tyle McNeil (19), Neshoba Central; cornerback Zerrick Houston (21), Philadelphia; and cornerback Ken Robinson (22), Neshoba Central; (thir row, from left) wide receiver Antonio Hughes (23), Morton; linebacker Brad Ellis (24), Forest; running back Duke Hudnall (25), Newto County; running back Ken Griffin (26), Philadelphia; cornerback Preston Felder (28), Meridian; running back Derrick Cade (30), Tuscaloos Central (Ala.); running back Marcus Travis (32), Perry Central; free safety Elijah Tanksley (34), Meridian; linebacker Guy Holden (35), New on County; and cornerback Demario Eichelberger (36), Louisville; (fourth row, from left) linebacker Chris Watson (38), West Lauderdale inebacker Randy Carter (39), Quitman; linebacker Harvey Brown (40), Neshoba Central; rover safety Rashad Horne (42), Quitman; run ning back Quan Richards (43), Hillcrest (Ala.); linebacker Anthony McDonald (44), 71st High School (NC); defensive end Jeremy Dillo 45), Forrest County AHS; linebacker Damarcus Lewis (47), Quitman; linebacker Kindrick Lyons (48) Philadelphia; offensive linema Quintin Scott (52), DeSoto Central; and offensive lineman Terry Sparkman (53), South Leake; (fifth row, from left) offensive lineman Chuck e Curry (54), Newton; offensive lineman Damion Young (62), Pelahatchie; offensive lineman Justin Moore (65), Leake Academy; offensiv ineman Robert Gaston (66), West Point; offensive lineman Jarred Flemming (70), Louisville; offensive lineman Matthew Lewis (71), For est County AHS; offensive lineman Kieandre Jones (74) Hillcrest (Ala.); offensive lineman Lorenzo Hollis (75), Morton; wide receiver Tevi Houston (80), Philadelphia; and wide receiver Radarius Owens (81), Quitman; (sixth row, from left) free safety Zach Jay (83), West Lauc erdale; long snapper/tight end Will McBeth (84), Leake Academy; tight end Andrew Perkins (86), Northwest Rankin; defensive tackle Jame Brown (90), Tuscaloosa Central (Ala.); nose guard Percy Calloway (94), Central Lafourche (La.); defensive end Anthony McMillian (95), He lelberg; defensive tackle Jasen Fairley (96), Collins; defensive end Cedric Hall (97), Carthage; and nose guard Jeremy Johnson (99), Lake seventh row, from left) managers Roosevelt Cunningham, West Point; Zach Evans and Michael Duncan, both of Nanih Waiya; Lamarriu Childress, Louisville; Corey Kelly, Lake; L.A. Jones, Carthage; Canvies Triplett, Philadelphia; and Hailey Moody, Nanih Waiya; and (bac ow, from left) coaches Kyle Watson (offensive line and special teams), Derek Pouncey (wide receivers), Fredrick Lyons (defensive line nen), Steve Cheatham (head coach), James Miller (assistant head coach and defensive coordinator), and Brian Anderson (offensive coo linator); and athletic trainer Derek Jones with the Rush Sports Medicine Team. Not pictured are running back Darrius Spencer (46), Ash eville (NC); wide receiver Brandon Tarriol (82), Jackson; and manager Jared Holloway, Neshoba Central. The Warriors begin season actio t 7 p.m. on Thursday, August 28 when they travel to Clarksdale to take on Coahoma Community College. (EC Photo)

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

ECC's Cheatham ...resses winning attitude

From press reports

"Win baby win!"

...at phrase is mostly attrib-...d to Al Davis, owner of the ...L Oakland Raiders.

...e same slogan can be applied ...he 2008 East Central Com-...nity College football squad. ... first-year head coach Steve ...atham said winning "on the ...d" is just part of the equation. "We want our players to not ...y be winners on the score-...rd but also in the classroom ...d in everyday life," said the 30-...r coaching veteran. "That's ...y we have adopted as this ...r's slogan, 'Winning Is An All-...e-Time Thing,' and we are ...essing that fact to our play-..."

...heatham, who took over the ...rrior football program at mid-...r following the resignation of ... former boss, Terry Under-...od, said "winning games" is ... result of a "winning atti-...le."

"If you can be a winner in all ...u do, especially when no one is ...king," Cheatham explained, ...en good things will be the ...ult."

...heatham and his squad will ...ve their first opportunity at ...inning" a football game when ... Warriors travel to Coahoma ...mmunity College on Thurs-...y, August 28. Kickoff is set for ...p.m. on the Clarksdale cam-...s.

...ast Central defeated the ...gers 32-21 to conclude the ...rriors' 3-6 campaign in 2007. ...e Coahoma squad is coached ... former Warrior assistant ...eman Horton, a former foot-...l standout at the University ... Southern Mississippi and ...ke High School.

...heatham, a former high ...ool head coach, said he is ...cited but a little nervous" ...ut leading a college football ...gram for the first time. He ...s have experience on the col-...e level, having served as a ...duate assistant at Clemson ...iversity and most recently as ...ector of football operations for ...ach David Cutcliff at the Uni-...sity of Mississippi.

"Practices have gone very well," Cheatham said. "Our guys are in decent shape and are physically a better football team than last year. We also seem to be a lot stronger."

This year's squad is also a little less experienced. Twenty-three lettermen are gone from 2007 and only 14 letter-winners return. Several freshmen are listed as starters.

"We'll probably have three freshmen that will start....all are very good players and a couple of them were here for spring workouts," said Cheatham.

One such freshman is Emmanual Taylor, a product of Early County High School in Blakely, Ga., who is projected to be the starting quarterback. The 6', 170-pound signal caller was selected JAC (spell out) Player of the Year in addition to receiving All-State and All-Star honors.

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Wide receivers, Kendrick May (5-10, 165) of Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) High School and Donovan Tate (6-2, 195) of Hattiesburg, are listed among top offensive returnees. Courtney Shelton (5-10, 220) of Tuscaloosa is regarded as the top returning running back, but Cheatham said several freshmen are also battling for backfield positions, including Derrick Cade (5-7, 210) of Tuscaloosa Central. Duke Hud-

He said being named head coach took him by surprise.

"I did not expect this (promotion) to happen....I just wanted to be an assistant coach, finish out my time, have fun and enjoy coaching," Cheatham stated. "We've had a lot to learn in a short period of time and I certainly want to thank Coach Underwood for his help in the transition. I learned a lot from him."

The Warriors began fall workouts in shorts on Wednesday, August 6 and put on the pads for the first time the following Saturday. Eighty-one players originally competed for the 63-man roster.

...hall (5-11, 200) from Newton County and Kendrick Griffin (6', 182) of Philadelphia.

Top returnees on the offensive line include Kieandre Jones (6-4, 345) of Hillcrest High School, Tuscaloosa; Justin Moore (6-3, 265) of Leake Academy, Quinton Scott (6-2, 340) of DeSoto Central; Robert Gaskin (6-1, 280) of West Point and Matthew Lewis (6-1, 270) of Forrest County AHS.

"All five linemen played a good bit last year, so we feel good about their experience going into this year," Cheatham said. "We've changed the total complexity of the offense – from a power football team to a spread-finesse team- but our linemen have adjusted well to the change. I really think the new scheme fits them a little better."

Defensively, top returnees include ends, Josh Lewis (6-5, 235) of Tuscaloosa County and Vonzell Jackson (6-3, 240) of Aliceville (Ala.) High School; linebackers, Harvey Brown (5-10, 235) of Neshoba Central, Randy Carter (6-1, 198) of Quitman and Anthony McDonald (5-11, 234) of 71st High School, Fayetteville, N.C.; and defensive back, Bruce Williams (6-4, 190) of Ridgeland. Sophomore Jason Fairley (5-11, 285) of Collins and freshman James Brown (6-4, 302) of Tuscaloosa Central are the top contenders at the defensive tackle positions.

"Our defensive front is really doing well," Cheatham said. "We were kind of worried when (nose guard) Henry Scott (of Will Rogers High School in Tulsa, OK) left the team for disciplinary reasons, but we've got two freshmen - Jeremy Johnson (6-2, 280) of Lake and Percy Callaway (6-3, 308) of Central Lafourche, La., who are both playing well."

Johnson is a three-time state champion power lifter. "He's unbelievably strong," Cheatham noted. He also recognized McDonald for his strength. "Anthony only weighs 230, but can bench press 400 pounds!"

Cheatham also praised for Lewis and Jackson, both of whom are attracting a lot of attention from several Division 1 programs.

"They're great football players and both have a lot of potential to compete at the next level," he stated.

Cheatham said he is also pleased with the entire linebacker corps, which includes freshmen Guy Holden (5-11, 200) of Newton County, Quadarius Wallace (5-11, 193) of Union, Chris Watson (6', 206) of West Lauderdale and Brad Ellis (5-11 235) of Forest.

In the secondary, sophomore Maurice Langston (5-10, 180) o... Northeast Lauderdale and freshman Caylem Estelle (5-10, 195) will handle cornerback duties. Cheatham said Langston will also see action at running back. Serving as back-ups at cornerback are freshmen Ken Robinson (6', 180) of Neshoba Central, who participated in spring drills, and Zerrick Houston (6', 175) of Philadelphia. Also expected to see action at cornerback is Demario Eichelberger (6-1, 165) of Louisville.

The two safeties are returnees Jarvis Wilson (6-1, 195) of Central Lafourche and Bruce Williams (6-4, 190) of Ridgeland. Sophomores Clint Coleman (6-2, 202) of Louisville and Eiljah Tanksley (6-3, 186) of Meridian will also see playing time at safe-...

Cheatham said he is "ver... pleased" with the kicking game... Returnee Derek Crenshaw (6-2... 185) of Neshoba Central wi... handle kicking and puntin... duties. Freshman Will McBeth ... Leake Academy is the center an... long snapper. Sophomore Dusti... Alley (6', 196) of Union Grov... High School, McDonough, Ga... will be the holder for extr... points and field goals.

Langston, Estelle, May an... Ricks will return punts and kic... offs.

Serving as Cheatham's assi... tants are James Miller, assista... head coach and defensive coord... nator; Brian Anderson, offensi... coordinator; Fred Lyons, defe... sive line coach; Kyle Watso... offensive line coach and speci...

WEEK OF 9-01-08

Warriors..

Continued from 4B...

back from Newton County High School, who had 48 yards on 11 carries, and freshman running back Derrick Cade of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) Central, with 25 yards on five carries.

In all, the Warriors had 244 yards rushing on 35 carries.

East Central registered 20 first downs.

Sophomore kicker Derek Crenshaw of Neshoba Central was successful on one of two field goals. He nailed a 40-yarder for the only points in the third period and barely missed a 42-yard attempt early in the second stanza. He also connected on three PATs and had one kickoff sail through the end zone.

East Central hosts Holmes Community College Saturday in another non-division matchup. Kickoff is set for 3:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium. The game was moved from Thursday due to heavy rains from Hurricane Gustav. Holmes began season action by dropping a 23-16 decision to Pearl River Community College.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

Warriors flop in debut of Cheatham Era; host Holmes

from school reports

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The Warriors, who took their only lead in the non-division contest at 7-6 following Kendrick May's 87-yard kickoff return in early first-quarter action, were simply out-gunned by the Tiger squad, which compiled 494 yards of total offense and had 21 first downs.

"We were obviously disappointed in the loss," said first-year head coach Steve Cheatham. "We were flat and played with no emotion and intensity, and that's not Warrior football."

Cheatham said the Warriors also need to correct mistakes made on both sides of the ball.

"We allowed too many big plays on defense, especially the long punt return for a score and the two long touchdown passes. The roughing-the-punter call early in the third quarter deep in their territory was also a big mistake.

"We also failed to convert several scoring opportunities, including the pass interception in the end zone early in the fourth period when we were down 34-23."

"We did have some positive things to happen on offense and in the kicking game," he noted, "but we have got to eliminate our mistakes and even more important we've got to play with more enthusiasm and get our swagger back."

Coahoma took a 34-20 lead into halftime.

Coahoma quarterback Marvin Pittman of Clarksdale found success through the air and on the ground against the Warrior defense, as he completed 14-of-19 passes for 213 yards and two scores — a 20-yard strike to wide receiver LaDarius Dawson late in first-half action and a 40-yard strike to wide receiver Deangelo Anderson early in the final stanza.

Pittman was also Coahoma's top rusher, with 15 carries for 106 yards.

The other Tiger points came on three and 11-yard runs by Timothy Graham, a 72-yard punt return by Marcus Allen, and a 3-yard blast by Katral James. David Gallagher was successful on five PATs.

Freshman Emmanuel Taylor had a successful debut as the Warriors' signal caller, connecting on 15-of-26 passes for 205 yards. He had one interception. Taylor, a product of Early County High School in Blakely, Ga., also had 78 yards rushing on 10 carries and scored on a 19-yard run late in the game.

Sophomore running back and return specialist Maurice Langston of Northeast Lauderdale had 156 all-purpose yards and led EC rushers with 90 yards on six carries and two scores. Langston tallied on a 5-yard run late in first-quarter action and added a 29-yard touchdown scamper with 1:40 left before halftime.

Other top EC rushers were Duke Hudnall, a sophomore running

Continued on 5B...
See Warriors...

Leading the East Central Community College football team for the 2008 campaign are coaches (kneeling from left) Brian Anderson, offensive coordinator; Steve Cheatham, head coach; and James Miller, assistant head coach/defensive coordinator; and (standing) Kyle Watson, offensive line/special teams; Derek Pouncey, wide receivers; and Fredrick Lyons, defensive line. Also shown is athletic trainer Derrick Jones of Rush Sports Medicine. The Warriors' game with Holmes has been moved from Thursday to Saturday at 3:30 p.m. due to heavy rains.

EC photo

Coahoma's High-Powered Offense Sinks ECCC Warriors

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In all, the Warriors had 244 yards rushing on 35 carries. East Central registered 20 first downs.

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Score by Quarters

East Central (0-1) 13 7 3 8 31

Coahoma (1-0) 20 14 0 13 47

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

WEEK OF 9-01-08

Juco Football

ECCC moves game to Saturday

from school reports

DECATUR — East Central Community College has pushed back the kickoff of its home football opener.

Holmes was scheduled to play the Warriors Thursday night here at Bailey Stadium, but wet conditions on the field have caused the game to be moved to Saturday at 3:30 p.m.

ECCC lost its season opener at Coahoma 47-31 last week.

School officials at East Central also announced Tuesday that today's soccer matches with Southwest Mississippi have been postponed and will be rescheduled at a later date.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 9-01-08

Warriors Suffer Season Opening

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

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Loss At Hands Of Coahoma

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SPIRIT OF MORTON

THE PHILADELPHIAN

WEEK OF 9-01-08

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ECCC-Holmes moved

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ECCC

From Page 1B

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OURI
SPIRIT OF MORTON

WEEK OF 9-1-08

ECCC falls in offensive battle to Cohoma

From School Reports
Special to The Democrat

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"We allowed too many big plays on defense, especially the long punt return for a score and the two long touchdown passes. The roughing-the-punter call early in the third quarter deep in their territory was also a big mistake. We also failed to convert several scoring opportunities, including the pass interception in the end zone early in the fourth period when we were down 34-23."

"We did have some positive things to happen on offense and in the kicking game," he noted, "but we have got to eliminate our mistakes and even more important we've got to play with more enthusiasm and get our swagger back."

Coahoma quarterback Marvin Pittman of Clarksdale found success through the air and on the ground against the Warrior defense, as he completed 14 of 19 passes for 213 yards and two scores – a 20-yard strike to wide receiver LaDarius Dawson of Rosedale late in first-half action and a 40-yard strike to wide receiver Deangelo Anderson of Memphis early in the final stanza. Pittman was also Coahoma's top rusher, with 15 carries for 106 yards.

The other Tiger points came on three- and 11-yard runs by Timothy Graham of Benoit, a 72-yard punt return by Marcus Allen of Clarksdale and a three-yard blast by Katral James of Atmore, Ala. David Gallagher of Pensacola was successful on five PATs.

Freshman Emmanuel Taylor had a successful debut as the Warriors' signal caller, connecting on 15 of 26 passes for 205 yards. He had one interception. Taylor, a product of Early County High School in Blakely, Ga., also had 78 yards rushing on 10 carries and scored on a 19-yard run late in the game.

Sophomore running back and return specialist Maurice Langston of Meridian had 156 all-purpose yards and led EC rushers with 90 yards on six carries and two scores. Langston, a product of Northeast Lauderdale High School, tallied on a five-yard run late in first-quarter action and added a 29-yard touchdown scamper with 1:40 left before halftime.

Other top EC rushers were Duke Hudnall, a sophomore running back from Newton County High School, who had 48 yards on 11 carries, and freshman running back Derrick Cade of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) Central, 25 yards on five carries.

In all, the Warriors had 244 yards rushing on 35 carries.

East Central registered 20 first downs.

Sophomore kicker Derek Crenshaw of Neshoba Central High School was successful on one of two field goals. He nailed a 40-yarder for the only points in the third period and barely missed a 42-yard attempt early in the second stanza. He also connected on three PATs and had one kickoff sail through the end zone.

East Central hosts Holmes Community College Thursday in another non-division matchup. Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium.

The Bulldogs began season action by dropping a 23-16 decision to Pearl River Community College Thursday night in Poplarville.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 9-01-08

Warriors aiming for first win

from staff reports

While this area avoided a direct hit from Hurricane Gustav, the storm still affected the sporting world in this part of the state.

East Central Community College was forced to move its week two matchup with Holmes from Thursday to Saturday after wet conditions at Warrior Field made it impossible to play.

Each team is looking for its first win of the season. The Warriors (0-1) dropped a 16-point decision on the road to Coahoma.

"We were obviously disappointed in the loss," said first-year ECCC coach Steve Cheatham. "We were flat and played with no emotion and intensity. That's not Warrior football."

The Warriors gave up a state's worst 494 yards of total offense and six touchdowns in the opener, but they will not have the same high-powered offense to deal with against the Bulldogs.

Holmes (0-1) notched just over 300 yards in its loss to Pearl River, scoring only 16 points.

Offensively, ECCC made nearly as much noise as the Tigers putting up 205 yards on the arm of freshman Emmanuel Taylor. Former Northeast Lauderdale standout Maurice Langston led the Warriors with 90 of the team's 244 yards on the ground.

"We did have some positive things happen on offense and in the kicking game," Cheatham said. "But we have got to eliminate our mistakes. Even more importantly, we've got to play with more enthusiasm and get our swagger back."

Kickoff for the non-division tilt at Bailey Stadium on the East Central campus is set for 3:30 p.m. Saturday.

— *Chris Brennaman*

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

Cheatham sees progress despite 37-21 loss

By Marty Stamper
Special to the Star

DECATUR — Despite the Warriors' 37-21 loss to Holmes Community College Saturday afternoon, East Central Community College first-year head football coach Steve Cheatham saw some progress from his team's 47-31 season-opening whipping at Coahoma Community College.

"There was a lot of improvement in different areas, but we're still not able to finish it," Cheatham said. "Defensively, I thought we did some good things today and offensively we did some good things. But we did some bad things on both sides of the ball and in the kicking game ... little mistakes that get you beat and we've got to get better than that. We'll just keep plugging away."

HOLMES CC 37
ECCC 21

Holmes, 1-9 a year ago, evened its 2008 record at 1-1. ECCC fell to 0-2.

Holmes drove 83 yards on its first possession to take an early 7-0 lead. Facing third-and-12 from his 48, Bulldog quarterback James Landry completed a 21-yard toss to keep the drive alive. Landry put the Bulldogs on the scoreboard with a 19-yard pass in the end zone to David Hampton with 8:25 left in the first quarter.

The homestanding Warriors closed to within four points with 4:10 to play in the opening period on a 28-yard field goal by Derek Crenshaw. A 58-yard punt return by Maurice Langston to the Holmes 20 set the Warriors up for their only lead of the afternoon.

Derrick Cade had two carries for 11 yards and Courtney Shelton capped the short five-play drive with a 1-yard scoring run with 6:13 remaining in the second quarter. Holder Dustin Alley bobbled the snap on the extra point try and ended up throwing an incompletion, leaving the Warriors up 9-7.

ECCC carried that two-point lead into halftime after the Bulldogs missed a 23-yard field goal with 1:07 left before intermission, but Holmes used a 30-12 scoring advantage in the second half to earn its first win of the year.

Crenshaw was well short on a 45-yard field goal try for the Warriors with 12:06 showing in the third quarter.

Two possessions later, Holmes took the lead for good on a 3-yard run by Harry Collins. Landry had completions of 23 and 16 yards on a pair of third downs to keep the drive alive. After ECCC was flagged for pass interference on a two-point pass, Collins ran in a two-point conversion to up Holmes' lead to 15-9 with 2:26 left in the third quarter.

A fumble recovery and 17-yard return by Trell Hagans put Holmes back in business at the ECCC 31 late in the third quarter. Landry found Chris Frison open in the end zone on the first play of the fourth quarter on a 31-yard toss. Landry then teamed with Hampton for a two-point conversion and 23-9 lead.

Langston cut the Warriors deficit to 23-15 when he fielded a rolling punt and returned it 46 yards for a touchdown with 11:13 to play. Alley was unable to handle the snap on the PAT and Crenshaw was smothered, leaving the Warriors down by eight points.

ECCC had apparently stopped Holmes on its next possession, but the Warriors were offside on a blocked 40-yard field goal attempt. Given new life, Landry ran for 14 yards to the ECCC 4 on fourth down. Collins scored on the next play as the Bulldogs led 30-15 with 6:22 remaining.

A 30-yard run by Langston and a 23-yard pass from Emmanuel Taylor to the Holmes' 5 set the Warriors up for their final score. Langston got the touchdown on a 5-yard run with 5:37 left. Taylor fumbled the ball into the end zone on a two-point run with Holmes recovering.

ECCC reached the Holmes 15 with just under three minutes to play, but Hagans picked off a Taylor pass at the 5 and returned it 95 yards for a touchdown to seal the win for Holmes. ECCC hosts Hinds on Thursday.

"No question the competition level is fixing to pick up," Cheatham said. "We needed a win today, but that's okay. Good things happen to people that keep trying. We're going to come back to work and get better and be ready for Hinds when they come in Thursday night."

From Page C3

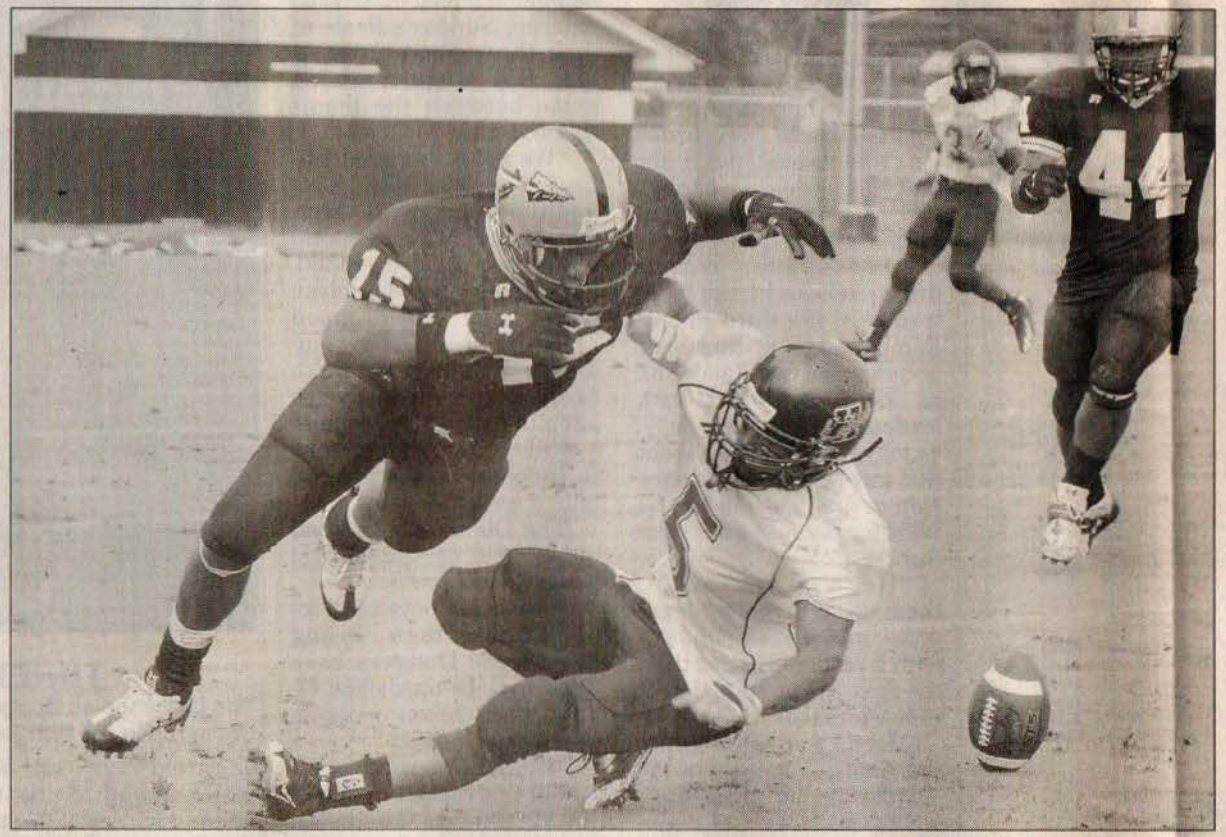

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

INCOMPLETE

East Central Community College's Quadarius Wallace pounces on Holmes Commnity College's James Jackson causing him to cough up the ball for an incomplete pass Saturday in Decatur. Look for more photos by clicking the Star Shots banner at the bottom of The Meridian Star web site at www.meridianstar.com.

APPEA
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WEEK OF 9-08-08

ECCC Warriors In Action Against Holmes

Warrior cornerback Zerrick Houston (21) of Philadelphia brings down Holmes running back Don Smith (3) of Flora during East Central's 37-21 defeat to the visiting Bulldogs Saturday afternoon. Assisting on the play is Warrior defensive tackle James Brown (90) of Tuscaloosa Central (Ala.) High School. (EC Photo)

Warrior Maurice Langston (1) escapes from Holmes defender Garrick Gainwell (53) of Yazoo City during one of Langston's successful runs in East Central's 37-21 loss to the visiting Bulldogs Saturday afternoon in Decatur. Langston, a product of Northeast Lauderdale High School, scored on a 45-yard punt return and set up another score with a 58-yard punt return. Also shown is Warrior offensive lineman Chuckie Curry (54) of Newton. (EC Photo)

East Central defensive end Josh Lewis (16) corrals a Holmes runner during the Warriors' 37-21 loss to the Bulldogs Saturday afternoon in Decatur. Lewis is a product of Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) High School. (EC Photo)

Emmanuel Taylor (9) breaks tackles from Holmes defenders as the Warrior quarterback nears the goal line during East Central's 37-21 setback to the visiting Bulldogs Saturday afternoon in Decatur. Taylor, a product of Early County High School in Blakely, Ga., completed 14 of 24 passes for 124 yards and had one interception. Also shown is Warrior offensive lineman Terry Sparkman (53) of South Leake. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN ✓

Warriors fall 37-21 to Holmes

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

Despite the Warriors 37-21 loss to Holmes Community College Saturday afternoon in Decatur, East Central Community College first-year head football coach Steve Cheatham saw some progress from his team s 47-31 season-opening whipping at Coahoma Community College.

There was a lot of improvement in different areas, but we re still not able to finish it, Cheatham said. Defensively, I thought we did some good things today and offensively we did some good things. But we did some bad things on both sides of the ball and in the kicking game ... little mistakes that get you beat and we ve got to get better than that. We ll just keep plugging away.

Holmes, 1-9 a year ago, evened its 2008 record at 1-1

ECCC fell to 0-2. The Warriors return to action Thursday when they host Hinds, 1-1. The Eagles lost 31-3 to Northwest Mississippi last week.

Holmes drove 83 yards on its first possession to take an early 7-0 lead. Facing third-and-12 from his 48, Bulldog quarterback James Landry completed a 21-yard toss to keep the drive alive. Landry put the Bulldogs on the scoreboard with a 19-yard pass in the end zone to David Hampton with 8:25 left in the first quarter.

The homestanding Warriors closed to within 7-3 with 4:10 to play in the opening period on a 28-yard field goal by Derek Crenshaw.

A 58-yard punt return by Maurice Langston to the Holmes 20 set the Warriors up for their only lead of the afternoon. Derrick Cade had two carries for 11 yards and Courtney Shelton capped the short five-play drive with a 1-yard scoring run with 6:13 remaining in the second quarter. Holder Dustin Alley bobbled the snap on the extra point try and ended up throwing an incompletion, leaving the Warriors up 9-7.

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Two possessions later, Holmes took the lead for good on a 3-yard run by Harry Collins. Landry had completions of 23 and 16 yards on a pair of third downs to keep the drive alive. After ECCC was flagged for pass interference on a two-point pass, Collins ran in a two-point conversion to up Holmes lead to 15-9 with 2:26 left in the third quarter.

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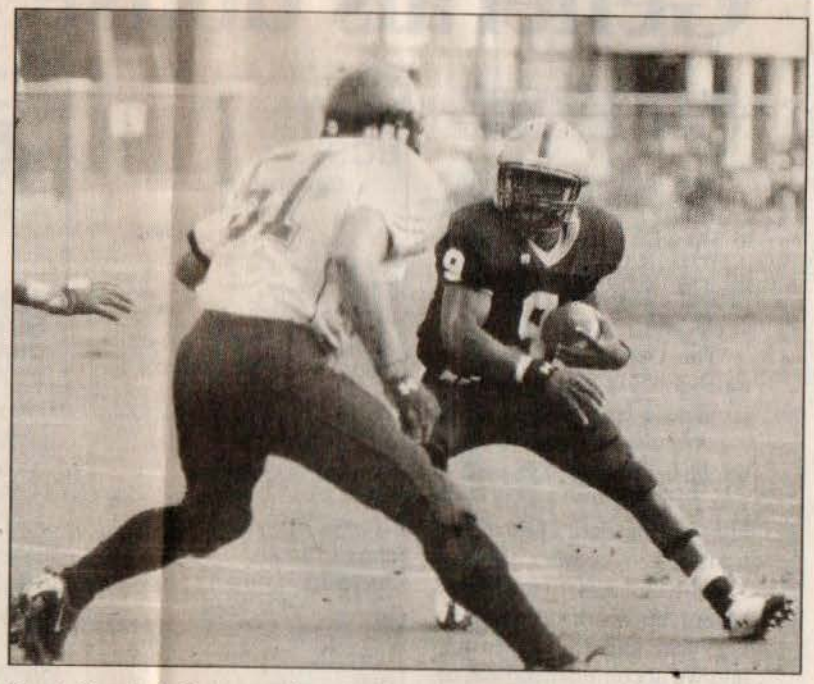
After facing Hinds on Thursday, the Warriors travel to Jones the following week.

No question the competition level is fixing to pick up, Cheatham said. We needed a win today, but that s okay. Good things happen to people that keep trying. We re going to come back to work and get better and be ready for Hinds when they come in.



East Central Community College quarterback Emmanuel Taylor tries to put a move on Holmes linebacker Drew Dennis in the Warriors' 37-21 loss Saturday at Decatur.

Photo by Marty Stamper

Tailgating Plans for Hinds

Members of the ECCC Warrior Club and prospective members are invited to participate in tailgating activities prior to Thursday night s game with Hinds.

Activities are scheduled from 5 to 6:30 p.m. near the entrance to Bailey Stadium. Food and refreshments will be provided and one lucky Warrior Club member will win a La-Z-Boy leather recliner.

WEEK OF 9.08 - 08

ECCC Warriors Fall to Holmes; Host Hinds Thursday in Division Opener

East Central Community College's Warriors were unable to maintain their slim 9-7 halftime lead as the Holmes Community College offense rallied for 30 second-half points en route to a 37-21 victory Saturday afternoon at Bailey Stadium in Decatur.

The Warriors fell to 0-2 under first-year head coach Steve Cheatham following the non-division matchup, which was originally scheduled for Thursday night but was moved to Saturday due to wet conditions at Warrior field. Holmes improved to 1-1.

Holmes quarterback James Landry gave fits to the Warrior defense all afternoon, as the freshman signal caller from Assumption, La., completed 17 of 21 passes for 181 yards and two scores. He also had 13 rushes for 117 yards. The Bulldogs had 410 total offensive yards and 19 first downs.

Emmanuel Taylor - EC's freshman quarterback – completed 14 of 24 passes for 124 yards. Taylor is a product of Early County High School in Blakeley, Ga. Freshman running back Derrick Cade was the Warrior's top ground-gainer, with nine carries for 58 yards. The Warriors had 252 total yards of offense with 16 first downs.

Holmes took an early 7-0 lead when Landry and wide receiver David Hampton connected on a 19-yard scoring strike with 8:25 left in the first period, capping an 11-play, 83-yard drive on the game's first possession. Taylor Putt of Kosciusko added the PAT.

The Warriors responded on their first possession with Neshoba Central product Derek Crenshaw splitting the uprights on a 38-yard field goal. East Central began the drive at its 45-yard line and drove to the Holmes 26 when the drive stalled.

East Central took its only lead of the afternoon when running back Courtney Shelton, a product of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) Central, found pay dirt on a one-yard plunge with 6:13 left before halftime. The PAT attempt was not successful but the Warriors held a 9-7 advantage. The key play setting up the Warrior score was Maurice Langston's 58-yard punt return to the Holmes 20-yard-line. Langston is a former standout at Northeast Lauderdale High School in Meridian.

The Bulldogs regained the lead for good during third-period action, when running back Harry Collins of Lexington crossed the goal line on a four-yard scamper. Collins also ran for the two-point conversion and gave the visitors a 15-9 advantage. The scoring drive covered 45 yards and took eight plays.

Holmes padded its lead early in the fourth stanza on a 30-yard touchdown pass from Landry to wide receiver Chris Frison of Grenada, capping a 31-yard drive set up by a Warrior fumble. Landry connected with Hampton for the two-point conversion and 23-9 Bulldog lead.

East Central narrowed the Holmes margin when Langston thrilled the Warrior faithful with his 45-yard punt return for a touchdown. The PAT was unsuccessful but the Warriors were within eight points of the Bulldogs at 23-15.

However, Holmes scored on its next possession, thanks mainly to a Warrior penalty when Putt missed on a 40-yard field goal attempt on fourth and 11 with 7:54 left. The Bulldogs, now facing fourth and six from the EC 18, decided to run for the first down and did so successfully, as Landry scrambled left for a 15-yard gain to the Warrior three-yard-line. Landry was stopped for a one-yard loss on first down but Collins found the end zone on the next play on a four-yard run. Putt added the PAT and gave Holmes a 30-15 edge. The scoring drive began at the Holmes 13-yard-line.

It took just three plays- covering 58 yards- for the Warriors to respond to the Bulldog score. The first came on Langston's 30-yard burst to the Holmes 28, followed by Taylor's 22-yard strike to wide receiver Tevin Houston of Philadelphia to the Holmes six, and Langston's six-yard run for the score. The PAT again failed but the Warriors closed the scoring gap to 30-21.

East Central was in position for another tally late in the game after taking possession at the Holmes 26 following a Bulldog penalty. But after driving to the Bulldog 15, Taylor's first-down pass was picked off by Holmes defensive back Trell Hagans of Mize, who returned the pigskin 90 yards for a score with 2:20 remaining. Putt added the PAT and the visitors held on for the 37-21 win.

The Warriors begin MACJC South Division action Thursday against Hinds Community College. Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium in Decatur. The Eagles are 1-1 after falling 31-3 Saturday to Northwest Mississippi Community College.

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SPIRIT OF MORTON

THE PHILADELPHIAN

Lions look to bounce back

By Chris Brennaman
assistant sports editor

SCOOBA — The schedule isn't getting much easier for East Mississippi.

After playing Copiah-Lincoln and then-No. 7 Jones, the Lions had a short week to prepare for North Division play.

Scooba Tech (1-1) will hit the road tonight to take on Holmes (1-1), which dropped East Central last week in Decatur.

Saturday night, EMCC came up just short in its bid to upset the Bobcats, falling 23-19. The Lions outgained Jones as quarterback Randall Mackey threw for 254 yards.

Mackey is second in the MACJC with 461 passing yards. He has also tossed three touchdowns and only one pick in 53 attempts.

The run game could be a big concern for East Mississippi's defense — which is ranked 11th out of 12 teams in the league. Holmes comes in averaging more than 200 yards a game.

Kickoff from Goodman is set

See **Lions**
Page C3

PHOTO BY PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

BIG RETURN

East Central Community College's Maurice Langston stiff arms Holmes Community College's kicker, Taylor Putt, on big punt return last weekend. Langston and the Warriors host Hinds tonight in Decatur.

Lions

From **Page C1**

Warriors seeking first win

It may be time for Steve Cheatham to bring the worms back out.

The coach, whose tactics for firing up his team last year as an assistant coach at East Central included eating a worm before a game, has lost the first two games of his inaugural campaign as head coach.

The Warriors (0-2) return home to face Hinds tonight.

ECCC has given up a league-worst 454 yards per game, but has an offense that has been able to keep up for the most part. The Warriors average 356 yards and have scored five offensive touchdowns, but have been hurt by turnovers.

The South Division opener for both teams is scheduled for a 7 p.m. kick at Bailey Stadium in Decatur.

SPIRIT OF MORTON

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THE PHILADELPHIAN

WEEK OF 7-08-08

WEEK OF 9-08-08

Last-minute TDs push Hinds over Warriors

By Marty Stamper
Special to The Star

DECATUR — Hinds Community College quarterback Wesley Mounger scored two touchdowns in the final 11 minutes to lead the Eagles to a 35-21 win over East Central Community College Thursday night.

HINDS 35
ECCC 21

Mounger scored on a 15-yard run with 10:29 remaining and on a 25-yard keeper with 4:44 to play to drop the Warriors to 0-3 overall and 0-1 in the MACJC South Division. Hinds improved to 2-1 and 1-0.

"We've just got to learn to play four quarters," said ECCC head coach Steve Cheatham. "It's a four-quarter game. We've got to learn to play hard. We've got to learn to take advantage of mistakes that other people make. When things happen, we've got to take advantage of them.

"We've just got to get better."

The loss was the 14th straight for the Warriors against MACJC South Division competition.

In leading Hinds, Mounger completed 7-of-11 passes for 100 yards and gained 126 yards on 15 rushes.

"He's pretty good," Cheatham said. "It comes down to players making plays. We've got to recruit and get good players. Our players have got to make plays. Whenever we put them in position to make plays, they've got to make plays."

Case in point, Mounger's 35-yard pass to Jamal Nixon when he had all day to throw gave Hinds the ball at the ECCC 40 with a 28-21 lead and just under 9 minutes remaining. The fact that the Warrior defense was unable to bat the pass away didn't set well with Cheatham.

"We've got a jump ball and if we knock it down ... all we've got to do is knock it down," Cheatham said. "It's just little things that we're not doing."

Mounger's 25-yard scoring run capped the drive and gave the Eagles a 14-point cushion.

Trailing 21-7 at halftime, the Warriors fought back to tie the game at 21-21 in the first minute of the fourth quarter.

The Warriors dodged a bullet early in the third after Courtney Shelton lost a fumble at the ECCC 10. Under heavy pressure, Mounger's toss was picked off by ECCC's Vonzell Jackson to set up a 77-yard scoring drive.

Derrick Cade cut the Warrior deficit to 21-14 when he bulled his way across the goal line from 5 yards out.

The Warrior defense forced Hinds to go three-and-out twice with ECCC pulling even at 21-21 on a 16-yard keeper around left end by Emmanuel Taylor with 14:01 to play.

Taylor had 140 yards on 21 rushes and completed 17-of-28 passes for 188 yards to lead ECCC.

The Warriors were unable to reach midfield on their next two possessions and had just 25 seconds to work with on their last series.

Steven Knight opened the scoring with a 9-yard touchdown run with 8:48 left in the first quarter. Parker Ware added the first of five extra points to put Hinds up 7-0.

ECCC tied the game with 2:28 remaining in the opening quarter on a 5-yard toss from Taylor to Maurice Langston. Derek Crenshaw kicked the first of three PATs.

Hinds scored twice in the second quarter to take a 21-7 lead into intermission. Treyvias Alexander got the first touchdown when he hauled in a Mounger pass on the first play of the second period.

Aaron Woolfolk made it 21-7 with an 88-yard run with 3:09 to go before halftime. Woolfolk had 140 yards on nine carries.

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WEEK OF 9-15-02

ECCC rally falls short to Hinds

East Central Community College rallied from a 21-7 halftime deficit to tie Hinds Community College at 21-21 but two fourth-quarter touchdown runs by Hinds quarterback Wesley Mounger propelled the Eagles to a 35-21 decision at Bailey Stadium in Decatur.

The Warriors, led by first-year head coach Steve Cheatham, dropped to 0-3 following the MACJC South Division opener for both teams. Hinds improved to 2-1 overall and 1-0 in division play.

HINDS 35
ECCC 21

Hinds took an early 7-0 lead when running back Steven Knight, a Northwest Rankin product, tallied on a nine-yard run, capping a five-play, 90-yard drive on the game's first possession. Parker Ware, also of Northwest Rankin, added the first of five PATs.

The Warriors tied the contest late in first-quarter action on a five-yard touchdown strike from quarterback Emmanuel Taylor to running back Courtney Shelton of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) Central. Neshoba Central product Derek Crenshaw added the first of his three PATs.

Taylor, who hails from Early County High School in Blakely, Ga., engineered the 14-play, 75-yard march by completing six straight passes – including the TD toss – for 43 yards. He also had three runs totaling 20 yards, and his 14-yard scamper to the Hinds six followed by a personal foul against the Eagles gave EC possession on the Hinds three-yard-line. EC scored three plays later.

Hinds regained the lead on its next possession with Mounger – a Clinton High School product – and wide receiver Treyvias Alexander of Breaux Bridge, La., connecting on a 38-yard pass play early in the second quarter. The drive covered 80 yards and took seven plays.

East Central responded to the Hinds score by driving from its 34-yard-line to the Hinds 10, but the drive stalled and Crenshaw's 37-yard field goal attempt was wide left. A key play during the drive was a 57-yard completion from Taylor to wide receiver Dustin Alley, a product of Union Grove High School in McDonough, Ga., which gave EC possession on the Hinds 12-yard-line.

The Warriors were set up for another score later in the second half but an incomplete pass on fourth and two at the Eagle 17-yard-line nixed the scoring threat.

After an exchange of possession, Hinds extended its lead to 21-7 on Aaron Woolfolk's 89-yard jaunt to the end zone with 3:08 remaining until halftime.

The Warriors took the ensuing kickoff and drove from the 39 to the Hinds 25, but missed again on a field goal attempt as Crenshaw's 42-yard effort was wide right as the half ended.

ECCC

From Page 1B

East Central cut into the Hinds lead at 21-14 early in the third period on running back Derrick Cade's two-yard burst, capping a 12-yard, 77-yard drive, which was set up by Warrior defensive end Vonzell Jackson's interception at the EC 23.

Key plays during the march were Cade's 15-yard run to the EC 38, an 18-yard pass completion from Taylor to wide receiver Donovan Tate of Hattiesburg to the Hinds 37, and a 13-yard pass from Taylor to wide receiver Lamar Truman of Northeast Lauderdale. Cade is a product of Tuscaloosa Central (Ala.) High School.

East Central tied the contest early in the fourth stanza on Taylor's 16-yard run, capping a four-play, 46-yard drive. The key play during the short drive was a 20-yard completion from Taylor to wide receiver Kendrick May of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County, who made the catch at the Hinds 16.

Hinds responded to the EC score on Mounger's 15-yard TD run with 10:29 left in the game. The scoring drive covered 69 yards and took nine plays and was highlighted by Woolfolks's 22-yard run to the EC 44.

The Warriors were unable to move the pigskin on the ensuing possession but the Eagles later found success by marching 80 yards in seven plays, with Mounger crossing the goal line on 25-yard touchdown scamper with 4:44 remaining in the contest.

The EC offense totaled 402 yards, with Taylor accounting for 328 yards. He completed 17 of 28 passes for 188 yards and one score, and rushed 21 times for 140 yards and two scores. Cade had 13 rushes for 58 yards and a TD. The Warriors had 18 first downs.

Hinds had 476 yards of offense. Mounger was the top producer as he completed seven of 11 passes for 100 yards and a score and rushed 15 times for 126 yards and two touchdowns. Woolfolk had nine rushes for 140 yards and a score. The Eagles had 15 first downs.

The Warriors will be on the road this week as they travel to Jones County Junior College Thursday night for another MACJC South Division battle. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. on the Ellisville campus.

The Bobcats are 3-0 overall and 1-0 in division play following their 21-9 win over Copiah-Lincoln Community College Thursday night.

The ECCC/Jones matchup can be heard on KICKS 98 (98.3 FM) featuring veteran broadcasters Melvin Wooten and Gilbert Barham.

WEEK OF 9-15-08

Late score lifts Hinds past ECCC Warriors; 35-21

East Central Community College rallied from a 21-7 halftime deficit to tie Hinds Community College at 21-21 but two fourth-quarter touchdown runs by Hinds quarterback Wesley Mounger propelled the Eagles to a 35-21 decision at Bailey Stadium in Decatur.

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Hinds took an early 7-0 lead when running back Steven Knight, a Northwest Rankin product, tallied on a nine-yard run, capping a five-play, 90-yard drive on the game's first possession. Parker Ware, also of Northwest Rankin, added the first of five PATs.

The Warriors tied the contest late in first-quarter action on a five-yard touchdown strike from quarterback Emmanuel Taylor to running back Courtney Shelton of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) Central. Neshoba Central product Derek Crenshaw added the first of his three PATs.

The Warriors were set up for another score later in the second half but an incomplete pass on fourth and two at the Eagle 17-yard-line nixed the scoring threat.

After an exchange of possession, Hinds extended its lead to 21-7 on Aaron Woolfolk's 89-yard jaunt to the end zone with 3:08 remaining until halftime.

The Warriors took the ensuing kickoff and drove from the 39 to the Hinds 25, but missed again on a field goal attempt as Crenshaw's 42-yard effort was wide right as the half ended.

East Central cut into the Hinds lead at 21-14 early in the third period on running back Derrick Cade's two-yard burst, capping a 12-yard, 77-yard drive, which was set up by Warrior defensive end Vonzell Jackson's interception at the EC 23.

East Central tied the contest early in the fourth stanza on Taylor's 16-yard run, capping a four-play, 46-yard drive. The key play during the short drive was a 20-yard completion from Taylor to wide receiver Kendrick May of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County, who made the catch at the Hinds 16.

Hinds responded to the EC score on Mounger's 15-yard TD run with 10:29 left in the game. The scoring drive covered 69 yards and took nine plays and was highlighted by Woolfolks's 22-yard run to the EC 44.

The Warriors were unable to move the pigskin on the ensuing possession but the Eagles later found success by marching 80 yards in seven plays, with Mounger crossing the goal line on 25-yard touchdown scamper with 4:44 remaining in the contest.

The Warriors will be on the road this week as they travel to Jones County Junior College Thursday night for another MACJC South Division battle. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. on the Ellisville campus.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

Warriors fall 35-21 to Hinds

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

Hinds Community College quarterback Wesley Mounger scored two touchdowns in the final 11 minutes to lead the Eagles to a 35-21 win over East Central Community College Thursday night at Decatur.

Mounger scored on a 15-yard run with 10:29 remaining and on a 25-yard keeper with 4:44 to play to drop the Warriors to 0-3 overall and 0-1 in the MACJC South Division. Hinds improved to 2-1 and 1-0.

"We've just got to learn to play four quarters," said ECCC head coach Steve Cheatham. "It's a four quarter game. We've got to learn to play hard. We've got to learn to take advantage of mistakes that other people make. When things happen, we've got to take advantage of them.

"We've just got to get better."

The loss was the 14th straight for the Warriors against MACJC South Division competition.

In leading Hinds, Mounger completed 7-of-11 passes for 100 yards and gained 126 yards on 15 rushes.

"He's pretty good," Cheatham said. "It comes down to players making plays. We've got to recruit and get good players. Our players have got to make plays. Whenever we put them in position to make plays, they've got to make plays."

Case in point, Mounger's 35-yard pass to Jamal Nixon when he had all day to throw gave Hinds the ball at the ECCC 40 with a 28-21 lead and just under nine minutes remaining. The fact that the Warrior secondary was unable to simply bat the pass away didn't set well with Cheatham.

"We've got a jump ball and if we knock it down ... all we've got to do is knock it down," Cheatham said. "It's just little things that we're not doing."

Mounger's 25-yard scoring run capped the drive and gave the Eagles a 14-point cushion.

Trailing 21-7 at halftime, the Warriors fought back to tie the game at 21-21 in the first minute of the fourth quarter.

The Warriors dodged a bullet early in the third quarter after Courtney Shelton lost a fumble at the ECCC 10. Under heavy pressure, Mounger's toss was picked off by ECCC's Vonzell Jackson to set up a 77-yard scoring drive.

Derrick Cade cut the Warrior deficit to 21-14 when he bulled his way across the goal line from five yards out. Cade finished with 58 yards on 13 carries.

The Warrior defense forced Hinds to go three-and-out twice with ECCC pulling even at 21-21 on a 16-yard keeper around left end by Emmanuel Taylor with 14:01 to play.

Taylor had 140 yards on 21 rushes and completed 17-of-28 passes for 188 yards to lead ECCC.

The Warriors were unable to reach midfield on their next two possessions and had just 25 seconds to work with on their last series.

Steven Knight opened the scoring with a 9-yard touchdown run with 8:48 left in the first quarter. Parker Ware added the first of five extra points to put Hinds up 7-0.

ECCC tied the game with 2:28 remaining in the opening quarter on a 5-yard toss from Taylor to Maurice Langston. Derek Crenshaw kicked the first of three PATs.

Hinds scored twice in the second quarter to take a 21-7 lead into intermission. Treyvias Alexander got the first touchdown when he hauled in a 38-yard Mounger pass on the first play of the second period.

Aaron Woolfolk made it 21-7 with an 88-yard run with 3:09 to go before halftime. Woolfolk had 140 yards on nine carries.

Crenshaw missed on a 42-yard field goal attempt for ECCC as the first half ended.

East Central travels to Jones Thursday. Kickoff is at 7 p.m. at Bobcat Stadium/Sim Cooley Field in Ellisville.

The Bobcats are 3-0 overall and 1-0 in division play following their 21-9 win over Copiah-Lincoln Community College last Thursday at Wesson.

East Central Community College freshman quarterback Emmanuel Taylor rolls out to pass in the Warriors' 35-21 loss to Hinds last week. Taylor completed 17-of-28 passes for 188 yards and ran the ball 21 times for 140 yards. ECCC travels to Ellisville Thursday to take on Jones County Junior College.

ECCC photo

WEEK OF 9-22-08

Southwest spoils EC's homecoming

By Marty Stamper
Special to the Star

DECATUR — Right now, the East Central Community College football team could very well pass for a crowded rowboat in which everyone was paddling in a different direction.

Not even a homecoming contest with a previously-winless opponent was enough to get the Warriors into the win column for the first time in 2008 as they lost 20-9 to the Southwest Mississippi Community College Bears Saturday afternoon.

ECCC fell to 0-5 overall and 0-3 in the MACJC South Division. Southwest improved to 1-3 and 1-2.

ECCC only trailed 13-9 until the Bears scored with just under two minutes to play to close out the win.

"The defense played damn good," said Warriors' first-year head coach Steve Cheatham. "I'm tired of everybody talking about how our offense has scored all these damn points all year. The offense gave up 21 points at Jones last week and we got our butts beat.

"We couldn't move the ball today. I'm sick of hearing everybody talk about our defense. Our defense played their butts off today. They played their butts off last week.

"It ain't about an offense or a defense, it's about a team and we're not a team right now."

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 9-22-08

PICTURE THIS

PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

FIGHTING MAD

East Central head coach Steve Cheatham yells from behind an official following the ejection of three Warriors from Saturday's homecoming game against Southwest Mississippi. ECCC lost 20-9 to the Bears. Story, C1.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

Warriors just shy on upset bid

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

East Central Community College nearly got its first signature win under new head coach Steve Cheatham Thursday in Ellisville, but a controversial interception by Mark Gray at the Bobcat 3 with 2:47 to play preserved Jones' 42-35 MACJC South Division win over the Warriors.

ECCC fell to 0-4 overall and 0-2 in the division, while Jones, which entered the game ranked No. 5 nationally, improved to 4-0 and 2-0.

Gray and ECCC's Kendrick May both appeared to have possession of the late-game pass, but officials ruled the Bobcat defender was in possession when the two players fell to the ground.

An 8-yard pass from Early James to Anthony Jackson with 5:53 remaining snapped a 35-35 tie and gave Jones the winning margin.

The Warriors had one final chance at the JCJC 19 when Will McBeth stripped Rafael Pollard of the ball on a punt.

Gray, however, picked off an Emmanuel Taylor pass to halt the threat. The Bobcats were able to pick up a first down and run out the clock.

The interception was one of five turnovers by the Warriors.

After neither team scored in the first 11 minutes, the scoreboard began to get a workout.

Derek Welch picked off an Taylor pass and returned it 30 yards for a touchdown with 3:56 left in the first quarter.

May put the Warriors in business with a 42-yard kickoff return to the JCJC 40. Three plays later, Maurice Langston took a handoff and raced 18 yards for a touchdown around the left side of his line. Derek Crenshaw's extra point tied it at 7-7 with 2:36 left in the first quarter.

ECCC took advantage of the first of two Jones turnovers to take a 14-7 lead. Clint Coleman picked off a James pass at the Bobcat 38 and returned it to the 30. Two plays later, Taylor hit Langston on a 29-yard scoring pass with 4:50 left in the first quarter.

Jackson returned the kickoff 35 yards to the JCJC 45. The Bobcats marched 55 yards in nine plays to tie the score. Daniel Borne scored on a 13-yard run with 11:52 left in the first half.

Three plays after the kickoff, Taylor fumbled the ball and Elliott McGaskin returned it 45 yards for a touchdown to put Jones up 21-14.

Jones threatened again when Bobby Wilson blocked a Warrior punt to set JCJC up at the Warrior 14, but Jacob Chancellor missed on a 42-yard field goal attempt.

That allowed ECCC to pull even at 21-21 with 3:02 to go in the half as Taylor found Langston behind the defense for a 65-yard touchdown pass.

The Bobcats scored again to take a 28-21 lead into halftime as they covered 60 yards in nine plays. James found Darius Dear on an 11-yard pass with 43.4 seconds left to send the Bobcats into halftime with the lead.

The Warriors opened the second half with a seven-play, 85-yard scoring drive to pull even at 28-28. Taylor connected with Donovan Tate on a 22-yard toss for the touchdown with 10:14 to go in the third quarter.

An interception by Jamie Bender at the ECCC 38 enabled the Bobcats to reclaim the lead. Three plays later, James threw a 44-yard touchdown pass to Tristan Purifoy with 6:19 left in the third quarter to put JCJC up 35-28.

Langston tied the game at 35-35 on a 71-yard punt return with 11:13 left in the contest.

Langston finished with four touchdowns and accounted for 263 yards of offense. He caught five passes for 113 yards.

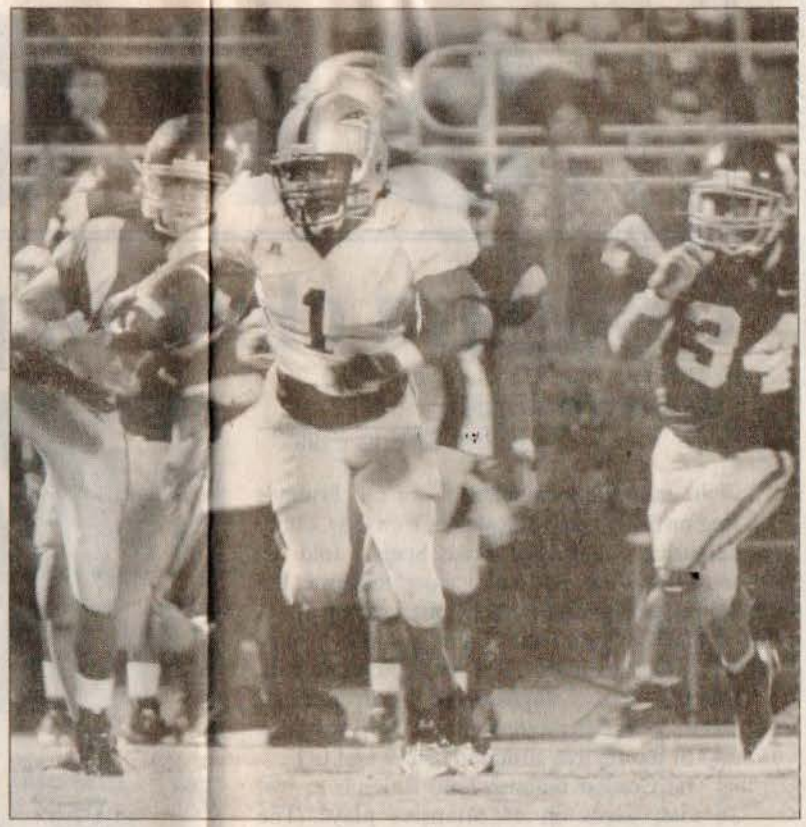
Taylor completed 16-of-28 passes for 248 yards and three touchdowns.

Jones put together a 10-play, 60-yard scoring drive for the win. Under pressure, James found Jackson on an 8-yard scoring pass with 5:53 to play.

Borne had 105 yards on 24 carries and scored his MACJC-leading eighth touchdown of the year to lead Jones. James completed 15-of-28 passes for 149 yards.

ECCC hosts winless Southwest Mississippi Community College for homecoming Saturday at 2:30 p.m.

The Bears fell to 0-3 with a 28-0 shutout by Copiah-Lincoln Community College last week.



East Central Community College sophomore Maurice Langston (1) had a career night Thursday against Jones County Junior College. Langston scored four touchdowns — an 18-yard run, 29 and 64-yard pass receptions, and a 71-yard punt return — in the 42-35 loss.

ECCC photo

WEEK OF 9-22-08

EC falls short in upset bid over nationally ranked Bobcats

Mark Gray's controversial interception on the two-yard line with 2:47 remaining nixed a possible game-tying score by the East Central Community College Warriors and nationally-ranked Jones County Junior College survived a 42-35 cliff-hanger Thursday night in Ellisville.

East Central dropped to 0-4 overall and 0-2 following the MACJC South Division battle, while the Bobcats, ranked fifth in the latest NJCAA poll, improved to 4-0 and 2-0.

The Warriors host division foe Southwest Mississippi Community College for homecoming Saturday, Sept. 27. Kickoff is set for 2:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium. The Bears fell to 0-3 and 0-2 following their 20-0 loss to Copiah-Lincoln Community College Thursday night.

East Central's miscue came on a first-and-goal situation from the Bobcat six-yard-line. Quarterback Emmanual Taylor, a product of Early County High School in Blakley, Ga., lofted a pass which appeared to have been caught by wide receiver Kendrick May of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County, but officials ruled the Bobcat defender was in possession when the two players fell to the ground.

East Central was set up for the possible late score thanks to a heads-up play by long snapper Will McBeth during a Warrior punt. The Leake Academy product stripped the ball while tackling Jones return specialist Rafael Pollard near the 30-yard-line and then bulled his way to the Jones 19. EC reached the six following two plays: a nine-yard completion from Taylor to May, and Dustin Alley's four-yard run.

First-quarter action featured a gallant effort by the Warrior defense, which held Jones on fourth and one at East Central's six-yard-line. Jones had gained possession when Greg Bolton intercepted Taylor's pass and returned the pigskin to the EC 15-yard-line.

But the Bobcat defense took advantage of another Warrior mistake when Derek Welch's 30-yard interception return with 3:56 left in the first period gave Jones a 7-0 lead following the first of six Jacob Chancellor PATs.

EC responded by capping a 40-yard drive in just three plays with Maurice Langston, a former Northeast Lauderdale standout, tallying on an 18-yard run. Neshoba Central product Derek Crenshaw connected on the first of his five PATs for the night. The short scoring drive was set up by May's 43-yard kickoff return to the Bobcat 40.

The Warriors took their only lead of the night late in the initial period on a 29-yard strike from Taylor to Langston.

EC's advantage was short-lived, however, as the Bobcats found pay dirt early in second-period action on a 13-yard run by Daniel Borne, capping a nine-play, 55-yard drive.

The Bobcats regained the lead at 21-14 when defen-

See ECCC, page 8A

ECCC

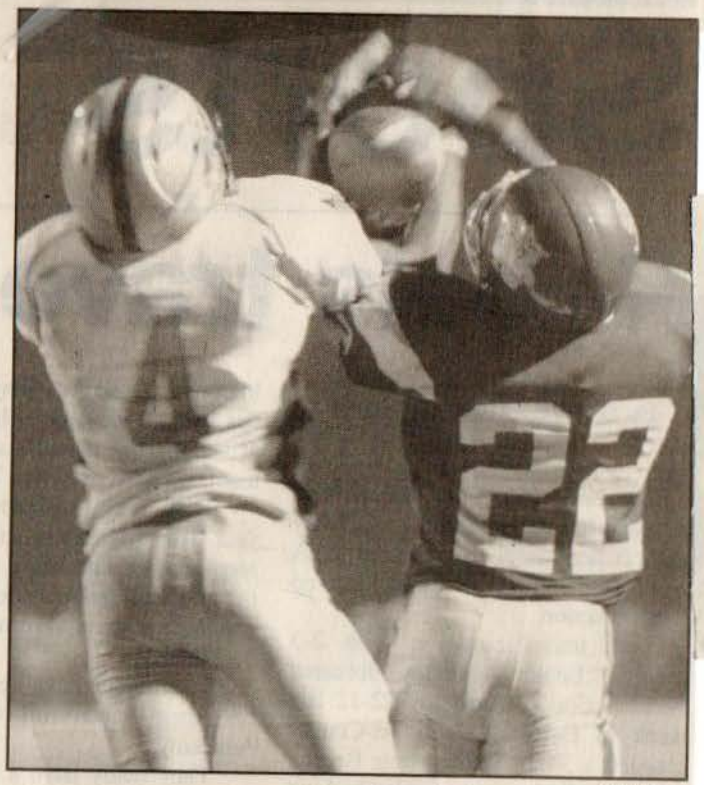
Continued from page 7A

sive back Elliott McGaskin stripped the ball from Taylor while making a tackle and raced 44 yards for the score.

Jones missed on an opportunity to extend its lead as the Warrior defense again responded. The Bobcats had taken possession on the EC 13 following a blocked punt but thanks to a stubborn Warrior defense and penalties, Jones was forced to attempt an unsuccessful 42-yard field goal.

The EC offense took advantage of the opportunity by scoring on a 64-yard pass play from Taylor to Langston, knotting the score again at 21-21.

The Bobcats took the ensuing kickoff and marched 60 yards in nine plays.



EC Photo

Warrior wide receiver Kendrick May and Jones defende Mark Gray fight for possession on this pass play near th goal line in the game's final minutes. Officials awarded th ball to the Bobcats.

Third-quarter action resulted in the Warriors tying the contest at 28-28, as Taylor connected with Donovan Tate of Hattiesburg on a 22-yard pass play with 10:14 left in the stanza. A key play during the 85-yard, seven-play march was a 39-yard completion from Taylor to May, which gave EC possession on the Jones 22-yard line.

Jones threatened to take the lead on the ensuing possession but the Warrior defense again held the Bobcats in-check on fourth and eight from the 30-yard-line.

But the Bobcats scored later when James broke several tackles while scrambling and found Tristan Purifoy open in the end zone on a 44-yard pass play on third and 16.

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Jones put the game's fin points on the scoreboard with eight-yard pass from James Anthony Jackson, capping a 1 play, 60-yard drive with 5:53 r maining.

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From Page 1B

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The Warriors took their only lead of the night late in the initial period on a 29-yard strike from Taylor to Langston. The score was set up when EC defensive back Clint Coleman of Louisville intercepted an Early James pass on the Bobcat 30.

EC's advantage was short-lived, however, as the Bobcats found pay dirt early in second-period action on a 13-yard run by Daniel Borne, capping a nine-play, 55-yard drive.

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The Bobcats took the ensuing kickoff and marched 60 yards in nine plays, with the go-ahead 28-21 score coming on a 16-yard pass completion from James to Darius Dear with 43 seconds remaining before halftime.

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But the Bobcats scored later when James broke several tackles while scrambling and found Tristan Purifoy open in the end zone on a 44-yard pass play on third and 16. The TD was set up when Jones defender Jamie Bender intercepted Taylor's pass as Allen tried to make a juggling catch.

The Warrior defense rose to the occasion once again late in the third period by stopping James on a fourth and one play near midfield.

East Central tied the contest a final time early in the final quarter, when Langston zigzagged across the field on a 71-yard punt return with 11:13 remaining in the game.

Jones put the game's final points on the scoreboard with an eight-yard pass from James to Anthony Jackson, capping a 10-play, 60-yard drive with 5:53 remaining.

East Central finished with 336 yards of total offense, most of which came through the air. Taylor completed 16 of 28 attempts for 248 yards and three scores. He also had three interceptions. Langston was the top receiver with five catches for 113 yards and two touchdowns. Tate had three receptions for 65 yards and a score. Taylor led EC rushers with 50 yards on 19 carries. Langston had five rushes for 23 yards and one score. EC had 10 first downs.

Jones had 159 yards rushing and 152 passing for a 311 total. The Bobcats has 12 first downs.

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Interception spoils ECCC's upset bid of No. 3 Jones

Mark Gray's controversial interception on the two-yard line with 2:47 remaining nixed a possible game-tying score by the East Central Community College Warriors and nationally-ranked Jones County Junior College survived a 42-35 cliffhanger Thursday night in Ellisville.

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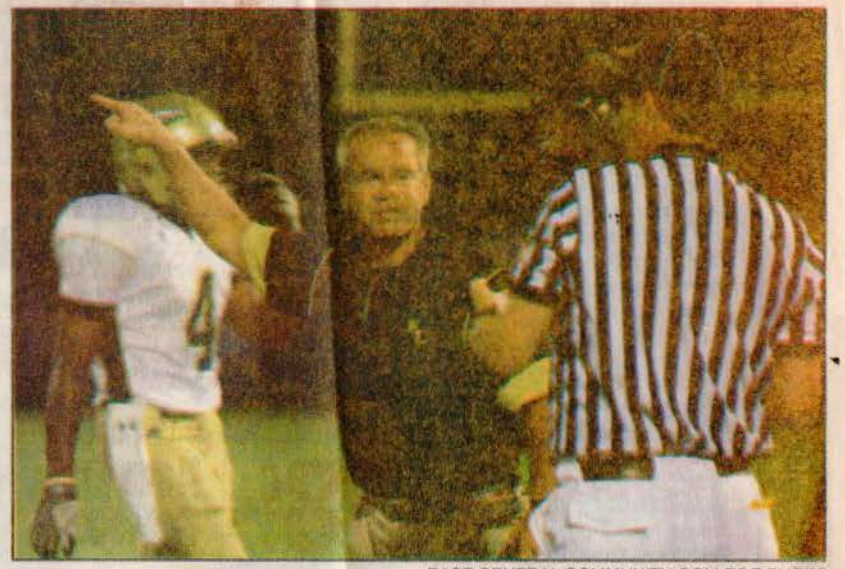
See **ECCC**, Page 3B



EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE PHOTO

EC head coach Steve Cheatham questions an official's decision during the Warriors' 42-35 loss to nationally ranked Jones Thursday in Ellisville. The division matchup featured several controversial rulings, including one near the game's end, which awarded shared possession of a Warrior pass to Jones, nixing a possible game-tying score for East Central.

WEEK OF 9-27-08

East Central 38, Northeast 7

BOONEVILLE — Emmanuel Taylor completed 19 of 27 passes for 382 yards and four touchdowns to lead the Warriors (1-5) to their first victory of the season.

Taylor threw an 85-yard TD bomb to Maurice Langston on the Tigers' first possession, and the rout was on. Langston caught another TD pass of 25 yards, and Dustin Alley had TD catches of 34 and 35 yards.

The Tigers fell to 0-6.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER ✓

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

ECCC

From **Page B1**

Just before the intermission EC closed out a 50-yard drive with the second Tayor to Langston touchdown connection. The score, which came on a third-and-15, was from 25 yards out and left 35 seconds on the clock.

Langston finished the game with 176 yards on eight receptions and found the end zone three times.

The Warriors' fast start to the game was nearly duplicated in the second half. Taylor found Dustin Alley for a 34-yard touchdown only 31 seconds into the third quarter.

The one-play drive was set up by a turnover. Former Quitman Panther Randy Carter recovered a fumble on the Tigers' first play of the second half.

Alley scored another touchdown in the quarter on a 35-yard pass from Taylor, who went 19-for-27 for 382 yards.

Northeast's only score came early in the fourth quarter on a 5-yard run by Jeremy Cannon.

There is a possibility that EC could have another win added to its total as Hinds Community College may have to forfeit two games, including its 35-21 victory over the Warriors.

— *Chris Brennaman*

ECCC earns first W, could add another

from staff reports

A week after having their homecoming spoiled, the East Central Community College Warriors were on the other end of that feeling.

The Warriors posted a 38-7 win over Northeast on Thursday to earn the fist victory for Steve Cheatham in six tries.

ECCC wasted no time getting on the board, scoring on the first play from scrimmage.

Emmanuel Taylor hit ex-Northeast Trojan Maurice Langston for an 85-yard touchdown.

Langston's first quarter also included a rushing touchdown from 10 yards out.

Derek Crenshaw nailed a 22-yard field goal to give the Warriors a 17-0 lead with 9:35 to play before halftime.

See **ECCC**
Page B5

WEEK OF

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

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THE PHILADEL

Warrior woes continue in 20-9 loss to Southwest

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

Right now, the East Central Community College football team could very well pass for a crowded rowboat in which everyone was paddling in a different direction.

Not even a homecoming contest with a previously-winless opponent was enough to get the Warriors into the win column for the first time in 2008 as they lost 20-9 to the Southwest Mississippi Community College Bears Saturday afternoon in Decatur.

EC fell to 0-5 overall and 0-3 in the MACJC South Division. Southwest improved to 1-3 and 1-2.

EC only trailed 13-9 until the Bears scored with just under two minutes to play to close out the win.

"The defense played damn good," said Warriors' first-year head coach Steve Cheatham. "I'm tired of everybody talking about how our offense has scored all these damn points all year. The offense gave up 21 points at Jones last week and we got our butts beat.

"We couldn't move the ball today. I'm sick of hearing everybody talk about our defense. Our defense played their butts off today. They played their butts off last week.

"It ain't about an offense or a defense, it's about a team and we're not a team right now."

The kicking game wasn't immune either as the Warriors missed an extra point and had a long field goal blocked.

"At East Central, it's got to be everything and everybody and if we're not everything and everybody, we can't win," Cheatham said. "We've got to come together as a team and until we do, we're going to keep doing just what we're doing right now."

The loss was EC's 16th straight against MACJC South Division teams, extending a streak that dates back to 2005.

The day got off to bad start early for the Warriors as they were penalized for having 12 offensive men on the field on the first play of the game.

Southwest went up 3-0 with 9:36 to go in the first quarter on a 36-yard field goal by Les Mulkey.

Taking over at their 5 following a Bear punt, the Warriors moved to the Southwest 5 where they got a 22-yard field goal by Derek Crenshaw with 12:43 remaining in the first half.

Mulkey missed on a 47-yard attempt for Southwest with 9:08 left in the second quarter, but the sophomore from Parklane Academy connected from 36 yards out with 5:55 to go in the half to put the Bears up 6-3.

EC took its only lead of the afternoon when Maurice Langston scored on a 4-yard run with 1:34 left in the half. Crenshaw missed the PAT, leaving EC holding a 9-6 lead going into halftime.

The Warriors threatened on their first possession of the second half as they reached the Southwest 12. Following a holding penalty, Crenshaw's 42-yard kick was blocked at the line of scrimmage.

Southwest put together a 75-yard touchdown drive. The touchdown came when Ryan McCall hit Brinson Johnson on a short pass and the sophomore from South Pike turned the completion into a 15-yard catch and run. Mulkey's kick gave the Bears a 13-9 lead with 8:22 to play in the third quarter.

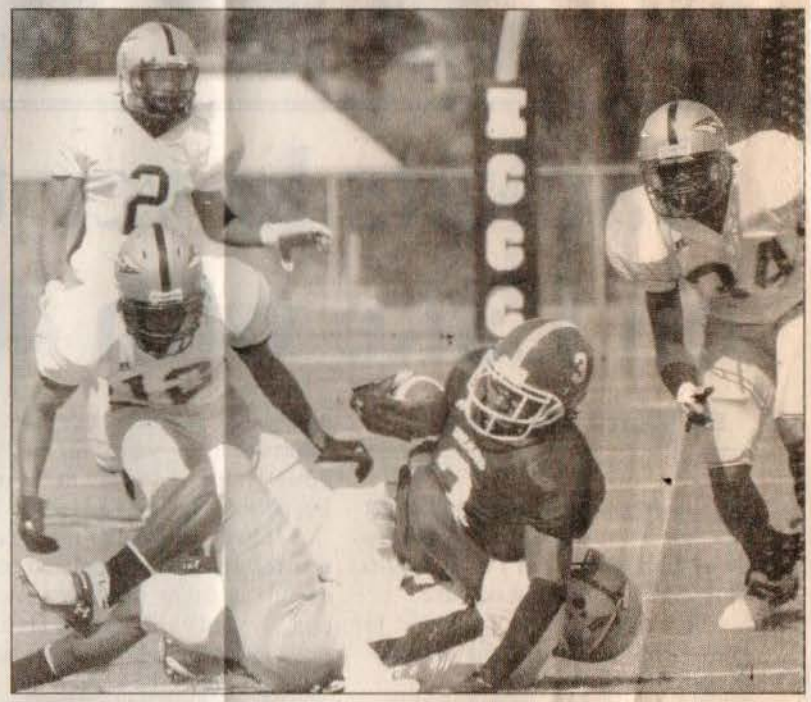
The Warriors reached the Southwest 25 midway through the third quarter only to lose the ball on a fumble on first down.

The Bears marched to the EC 10, but fumbled on fourth-and-1 with the Warriors taking over.

With just over eight minutes to play, Crenshaw punted to the Southwest 12, but Wanzell Carter got the Bears out of the hole with a 39-yard run to midfield.

Southwest punted to the EC 8 and three plays netted only a yard for the Warriors, setting up the Bears' final score.

A 24-yard punt return by Roteddrick Cotton to the EC 26 led to a touchdown run up the middle by Ricky McGee on the next play. Mulkey's PAT put the Bears up 20-9 with 1:47 left.



East Central Community College's defense gave the Warriors a chance to win Saturday's homecoming game with Southwest Mississippi, but the Warrior offense managed only nine points in the 20-9 loss to the Bears.

Photo by Marty Stamper

Emmanual Taylor completed four passes for 45 yards as the Warriors reached the Bear 19, but Taylor was held to a 3-yard gain on fourth-and-10 with 20 seconds left.

EC rushed for 140 yards and passed for 124, while Southwest had 339 total yards with 256 coming through the air.

Kendrick May had three catches for 41 yards for the Warriors with Taylor rushing 23 times for 79 yards. Langston gained 32 yards on nine carries.

EC travels to Booneville Thursday to take on winless Northeast Mississippi, 0-5. The Tigers lost 30-7 to Holmes last week.

ECCC Warriors Drop Homecoming Contest

East Central running back Derrick Cade (30) fights for yardage during the Warriors' 20-9 homecoming loss to Southwest Saturday afternoon at Bailey Stadium. Cade is a product of Tuscaloosa Central (Ala.) High School.

Homecoming activities ended on a disappointing note at East Central Community College in Decatur as the Warriors fell 20-9 to Southwest Mississippi Community College Saturday afternoon at Bailey Stadium.

East Central, which dropped to 0-5 overall and 0-3 in MACJC South Division action, held a 9-6 halftime advantage over the Bears who rallied to claim their first season victory following three defeats.

First-year head coach Steve Cheatham stressed the importance of team unity as the Warriors try to close out the 2008 campaign on a positive note.

"We've got to come together as a team and until we do, we're going to keep doing just what we're doing right now," Cheatham said following the division defeat.

The Warriors take a break from league action this week by traveling to Northeast Mississippi Community College Thursday night. Kickoff for the homecoming contest is set for 7 p.m. on the Booneville campus. The Tigers are 0-5 following their 30-7 loss to Holmes Community College last week.

Northeast Lauderdale product Maurice Langston, which gave EC possession on the Southwest 39. Taylor, a product of Early County High School in Blakely, Ga., also had several rushing gains during the drive, including an 11-yard scamper to the Bears' 28.

Southwest regained the lead on Mulkey's 36-yard field goal with 5:55 left until halftime. The Bears took possession on the EC 41 but the drive stalled on the 19 thanks to key defensive plays by safety Jarvis Wilson of Central Lafourche High School in Raceland, La., who deflected a Ryan McCall pass on first down, and Warrior linebacker Brad Ellis of Forest and defensive end Josh Lewis, a product of Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) High School, who dropped running back Jamall Jackson for a three-yard loss on second down. McCall threw an incomplete pass on third down.

East Central took its only lead of the day when Langston crossed the goal line on a four-yard run with 1:34 left before halftime. Crenshaw's PAT was not successful. The scoring drive covered 59 yards in nine plays and was high-

Southwest grabbed an early 3-0 lead after Les Mulkey connected on a 37-yard field goal with 9:30 left in first-period action.

Neshoba Central product Derek Crenshaw tied the contest with his 22-yard field goal early in the second quarter, capping a 16-play, 90-yard drive. One of the key plays during the march was a 24-yard pass completion from quarterback Emmanuel Taylor to

lighted by Taylor's 23-yard pass completion to wide receiver Kendrick May of Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) High School, which gave EC possession on the Southwest 32. Taylor also connected on a 10-yard strike to wide receiver Antonio Hughes of Morton at the Bears' 19-yard-line.

Southwest took the lead for good in the third period, on McCall's 15-yard touchdown pass to Brinson Johnson with 8:22 remaining. The 70-yard drive took just six plays and was set up after the Bears blocked Crenshaw's 42-yard field goal attempt. EC reached the Southwest two-yard-line but a holding penalty followed by a quarterback sack forced EC to attempt the long field goal.

The Bears were set up for another score late in the third period but the Warrior defense stopped the drive on fourth and one at the EC 10-yard-line.

Southwest would not be denied the end zone late in the contest when running back Ricky McGee tallied on a 22-yard scamper with 1:47 left. Mulkey added the PAT. The short 22-yard drive was set up by Roteddrick Cotton's 28-yard punt return.

For EC, Taylor was the top offensive performer. He completed 11 of 24 passes for 124 yards and one score. May was the top receiver with four catches for 41 yards. Taylor rushed 23 times for 79 yards. EC had 264 total yards and 16 first downs.

McCall completed 24 of 38 passes for 256 yards and one score. Southwest had 83 yards rushing and collected 18 first downs.

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MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

THE PHILADELPHIAN ✓

WEEK OF 9-29-08

JUCO FOOTBALL

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

SOUTHWEST 20, EAST CENTRAL 9

Southwest (1-3)	3	3	7	— 20
East Central (0-5)	0	9	0	— 9

S— Mulkey 37 FG. EC— Crenshaw 22 FG. S— Mulkey 36 FG. EC— Langston 4 run (kick failed). S— Johnson 15 pass from McCall (kick). S— McGee 22 run (kick).

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER ✓

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 9-29-08

Juco Football

ECCC still searching for first win

By Chris Brennaman
assistant sports editor

DECATUR — A week after losing to one of the state's remaining winless teams, East Central Community College will try to avoid a similar fate tonight when the Warriors take on Northeast Mississippi Community College.

ECCC travels to Booneville for a matchup of two 0-5 teams in a non-division game, with kickoff set for 7 p.m.

Last week, the Warriors dropped their homecoming contest to Southwest Mississippi, which picked up its first victory of the year.

EC had its least-productive offensive outing of the 2008, scoring only nine points and gathering only 264 yards of total offense. The Warriors had been averaging more than 400 yards per game.

East Central held a 9-6 lead at halftime on a 4-yard touchdown by former Northeast Lauderdale standout Maurice Langston and a field goal by Neshoba Central product Derek Crenshaw.

The Warriors gave up two touchdowns in the second half as Steve Cheatham was once again denied his first victory at the helm of the Warriors.

Northeast is coming off a 30-7 loss to Holmes. The Tigers were trailing by three at halftime, but gave up a big second half to fall for the fifth straight week.

East Central, after its subpar performance during homecoming weekend, dropped from fourth in the state to seventh in total offense at 343 yards per game. Northeast is averaging 250.

Defensively, the Warriors have given up a state-worst 20 touchdowns. EC's opponents have put up 337 yards per game, while the Tigers have allowed 354.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____
UNION APPEAL _____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

BA DEMOCRAT _____
N RECORD _____
AN STAR ✓
CLARION-LEDGER _____
THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

Warriors beat Northeast on field; Hinds off field

from school reports

The first play from scrimmage set the tone for East Central Community College's 38-7 whipping of Northeast Mississippi Community College Thursday night in Booneville, as quarterback Emmanuel Taylor hooked up with Maurice Langston for an 85-yard touchdown strike — the first of four touchdown passes thrown by the freshman signal caller from Georgia and the first of three scores by Langston, a former standout at Northeast Lauderdale High School.

Taylor, a product of Early County High School in Blakely, Ga., fired a 25-yard touchdown pass to Langston in the second period, and connected with wide receiver Dustin Alley on 34- and 35-yard scoring pass plays early in third period action, which provided the Warriors with a 38-0 cushion and sent many of the Tiger faithful home early from the homecoming contest at Keenum Stadium.

Taylor ended the night by completing 19-of-27 passes for 382 yards, his best performance as a Warrior. Langston's other score came on a 10-yard run midway in the second period.

East Central's easy victory was especially sweet for first-year head coach Steve Cheatham, who earned his first on-the-field win as the Warrior head mentor. East Central was notified earlier in the day that Hinds Community College had forfeited its 35-21 decision over the Warriors due to an ineligible player, thus putting EC's record at 2-4 overall and 1-2 in the MACJC South Division.

Cheatham, obviously elated at capturing two victories on the same day, offered praise for his offensive and defensive units for the "team victory" over Northeast.

"I was really proud of our players... they were so excited and deserved the win," Cheatham said. "We played pretty close to a complete game on both sides of the ball and in the kicking game. It was really a team effort. We had a good week of practice and I thought we would play well."

Cheatham said the Warriors received an unexpected boost when learning about the Hinds forfeit earlier in the day.

"Not many teams win two games in one day," Cheatham said with a smile, "so we were obviously very excited to hear the good news. We now have a chance to make the playoffs and as you know, in this league, anything is possible. We just need to continue to play hard and make things happen. We've been expecting good things to happen to us all year and now they are."

Following East Central's first score, the Warrior defense stopped a Tiger scoring threat when defensive end Cedric Hall sacked Northeast quarterback Emanuel Frances for a 4-yard loss on fourth-and-8 from the EC 32.

The EC offense responded by marching 64 yards in 10 plays, capped by Langston's 10-yard touchdown run. Key plays during the drive included Taylor's 16-yard pass completion to Langston to the Northeast 49 and Taylor's 13-yard scramble to the Tiger 10. Neshoba Central product Derek Crenshaw — who broke a toe on his kicking foot prior to last week's homecoming contest — added the PAT and was successful on all five attempts.

Northeast took the ensuing kickoff and marched from its own 14 to the EC 45, only to be denied further penetration thanks again to a sack of the Tiger quarterback, this time by defensive end Josh Lewis. Lewis burst through the Tiger defense and tackled Frances for a 9-yard loss on third-and-2, forcing Northeast to punt.

The Warriors mounted an impressive drive on their next possession, marching from their 25 to the Northeast 13, only to have the scoring threat nixed when Tiger defender Jeremy Vaughn intercepted Taylor's pass in the end zone.

The EC defense once again held the Tiger offense in check and forced a punt almost resulting in another Warrior score, but Langston's 35-yard dash to the end zone was nullified due to a blocking-in-the-back call during the return.

The Warriors did manage to score points on the possession, as Crenshaw drilled a 22-yard field goal with 9:35 remaining before halftime.

EC missed on another scoring opportunity on its next possession when Northeast tried a fake punt on fourth-and-10 from its own 25. Free safety Bruce Williams stopped Tiger punter Rico King for a short gain and the Warriors were in excellent field position at the Northeast 27. However, the drive stalled and Crenshaw was unsuccessful on his 24-yard field goal attempt.

The Warriors did score on their next possession as Taylor and Langston connected on a 25-yard scoring pass play with 35 seconds left before halftime. Key plays during the eight-play, 50-yard drive included a 9-yard pass from Taylor to wide receiver Lamar Truman, followed by a 21-yard pass play by the same duo to the Tiger 19.

EC carried a commanding 24-0 lead into the dressing room at halftime and wasted little time in padding its advantage early in the third period, thanks to Tiger miscues.

Northeast had taken possession on its 43 following the second-half kickoff, but fumbled on first down and Warrior linebacker Randy Carter recovered the loose pigskin at the Tiger 34.

On EC's first play of the second half the Warriors found the end zone as Taylor and Alley connected on a 34-yard scoring pass play.

The Warriors took advantage of another Tiger mistake moments later and found pay dirt on their second play of the second half when Taylor and Alley hooked up on a 35-yard scoring pass play. The scoring opportunity was set up when Warrior defensive lineman Jeremy Dillon intercepted Frances' pass at the 35.

The Tigers were in position to score their first points, but Warrior cornerback Zerrick Houston nipped those plans in the bud when he intercepted Jeremy Yates' pass in the end zone with 5:15 left in the third period.

Northeast did reach the end zone early in the fourth stanza on Jeremy Cannon's 5-yard run, capping a nine-play, 55-yard drive.

Next up for the Warriors is a division showdown with nationally-ranked Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. Kickoff for the homecoming contest is set for 3 p.m. on the Perkinston campus.

The seventh-ranked Bulldogs dropped to 4-2 overall and 2-1 in division play after falling 37-31 in overtime to Copiah-Lincoln Community College Saturday in Wesson.

WEEK OF 10·6·08

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ___
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ___
UNION APPEAL ___
WINSTON COUNTY ___
SPIRIT OF MORTON ___
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ___
NEWTON RECORD ___
MERIDIAN STAR ✓
CLARION-LEDGER ___
THE PHILADELPHIAN ___

Juco Football: East Central at No. 12 Mississippi Gulf Coast

Warriors set sights on nationally-ranked Bulldogs

from school reports

DECATUR — With two wins under their belts — albeit one by forfeit — the East Central Community College Warriors have a new attitude about winning, and first-year head coach Steve Cheatham hopes that "attitude" will lead to an upset of nationally ranked Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Saturday afternoon.

ECCC WITH YOU IN MIND

Kickoff for the Bulldogs' homecoming contest is set for 3 p.m. on the Perkinston campus.

"Getting our first win and doing so in a convincing fashion was very huge for our players and coaches," Cheatham said in referring to Warriors' 38-7 blowout over Northeast last Thursday. "And the forfeit from Hinds just added icing to the cake, because now we have a chance to make the playoffs if we continue to play well."

But facing the defending national co-champion Bulldogs at homecoming and following their overtime loss at Copiah-Lincoln last week will be no easy task.

"Gulf Coast has another excellent team and was ranked number two in the nation prior to their losses to East Mississippi and Co-Lin," Cheatham noted. "We know they will be ready to play but we will be ready, too. It should be a great ball game."

The Bulldogs, ranked 12th in the latest JUCO poll, are 4-2 overall and 2-1 in the MACJC South Division, while the Warriors are 2-4 and 1-2.

Gulf Coast is ranked second in rushing offense with 235.8 yards per contest, but has the league's worst passing offense, averaging 116 yards.

The Bulldogs are ranked sixth in total offense with 352 yards per game.

EC is ranked third in total offense, averaging 366 yards per contest. The Warriors are third in passing offense at 212 yards per game, and fifth in rushing offense with 154 yards per contest.

Gulf Coast is ranked first in rushing defense, allowing just 63 yards per game.

The Bulldogs are last in passing defense, giving up 267 yards per contest. Gulf Coast is ranked 11th in total defense.

East Central is ranked sixth in passing defense, allowing 171.5 yards per game.

The Warriors are 12th in rushing defense, giving up 192 yards per contest. EC's defense is ranked seventh overall, allowing 305.3 yards per game.

WEEK OF 10-6-08

Juco Football

Warriors' upset bid falls short despite big night by Langston

from staff reports

Trailing by 17 at the half, East Central Community College nearly managed to pull off one of the state's biggest junior college upsets of the year.

The Warriors (2-5, 1-3 MACJC South Division) scored the last 21 points of the game, but dropped a close one 38-35 to Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College.

The difference would have been 10, but the Warriors took advantage of an offensive gaffe as MGCCC was trying to run out the clock.

Randy Carter recovered a fumble on the Bulldog 35-yard line on a mishandled snap.

EC scored four plays later on a 7-yard pass from Emmanuel Taylor to Dustin Alley. Following the score 27 seconds remained on the clock.

The Warriors were unable to recover the onside kick as Gulf Coast closed out the homecoming win.

After a scoreless first quarter, the second period was dominated by the Bulldogs, who got on the board first with a 62-yard punt return for a touchdown by Demond Washington.

Gulf Coast added a 17-yard run by Jamal Young to go up 14-0.

Taylor hit Kendrick May for the first of his three TD passes to cut the deficit in half for East Central.

GULF COAST 32

EAST CENTRAL 0

Young's second touchdown — a 7-yard run — made it 21-7 with 1:56 to play in the first half.

On the next possession for ECCC, Taylor was intercepted by Chris White and returned it 55-yards to Warrior 9.

East Central's defense stiffened and forced a field goal attempt by Sean Brauchle, who drilled the 26-yarder.

The Bulldogs opened the third quarter scoring with a Greg Jenkins 9-yard touchdown pass to Brandon Johnson.

The Warriors scored on a 52-yard pass from Taylor to Maurice Langston, a former Northeast Lauderdale standout.

MGCCC answered with a 49-yard TD pass. Jenkins hooked up with Kelvin Bolden for the score.

On the ensuing kickoff, Langston took the ball at the 1 and didn't stop until he had six points for the Warriors. ECCC trailed 38-21 heading into the final period.

Langston, who played quarterback for the Trojans, showed his throwing skills haven't diminished as he tossed a 63-yard half back pass to Antonio Ricks that brought the Warriors to within 10 with just over 10 minutes to play.

East Central finished the night with more than 300 yards of passing offense, with 253 yards coming from Taylor.

— Chris Brennaman

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

ECCC Warriors cruise past Northeast for first season win

.08

By STEVE SWOGETINSKY
Sports Editor

The first play from scrimmage set the tone for East Central Community College's 38-7 whipping of Northeast Mississippi Community College Thursday night in Booneville.

Quarterback Emmanuel Taylor hooked up with Maurice Langston for an 85-yard touchdown strike – the first of four TD passes thrown by the freshman signal caller from Georgia and the first of three scores by Langston, a former standout at Northeast Lauderdale High School in Meridian.

East Central's easy victory was especially sweet for first-year head coach Steve Cheatham, who earned his first on-the-field win as the Warrior head mentor.

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Cheatham, obviously elated at capturing two victories on the same day, offered praise for his offensive and defensive units for the "team victory" over Northeast.

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Cheatham said the Warriors received an unexpected boost when learning about the Hinds forfeit earlier in the day.

"Not many teams win two games in one day," Cheatham said with a smile.

Following East Central's first score, the Warrior defense stopped a Tiger scoring threat when defensive end Cedric Hall of Carthage sacked Northeast quarterback Emanuel Frances for a four-yard loss on fourth and eight from the EC 32-yard line.

East Central carried a commanding 24-0 lead into the dressing room at halftime and wasted little time in padding its advantage early in the third period, thanks to Tiger miscues.

Northeast had taken possession on its 43 following the second-half kickoff, but fumbled on first down and Warrior linebacker Randy Carter recovered the loose pigskin at the Tiger 34.

On EC's first play of the second half – as was the case on the game's opening play – the Warriors found the end zone as Taylor and Alley connected on their 34-yard scoring pass play.

Back-up quarterback Tyler McNeil of Neshoba Central directed the Warrior offense for a series during third-quarter action and picked up positive yardage before giving up possession.

The Tigers were in position to score their first points following the exchange of possession but Warrior cornerback Zerrick Houston of Philadelphia nipped

See **ECCC**, page 9A

ECCC

Continued from page 8A

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Northeast did reach the end zone early in the fourth stanza on Jeremy Cannon's five-yard run, capping a nine-play, 55-yard drive.

Next up for the Warriors is a division showdown with nationally ranked Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. Kick-off for the homecoming

run and then Fred Carothers scored on a 19-yard run.

Winona scored early in the third quarter to make the score 27-21. The Rockets came back later in the period when Cantrell connected with Terrance Hill, who was all alone in the end zone, on a 24-yard TD pass. Cantrell scored the two-point conversion and Neshoba Central led 35-21.

Neshoba Central closed out the scoring when Cantrell scored on a 24-yard run and Hudson hit pay dirt on a 22-yard run.

"We played pretty good," Friend said. "We have been knocking people off the ball so they dove at our feet. But we handled it. Now we go back to work on Monday try to get better.

"We really appreciate the support we have gotten last two weeks while we have been on road. It is a tremendous credit to our fans, the way they have followed this team."

Hudson had 107 yards on 29 carries to lead the Rocket rushers. Cantrell added 101 yards on 13 carries. Tabb had a busy night. He completed five passes for 101 yards and rushed 10 times for 57 yards and added long punt return as well.

Josh Stewart had 13 tackles on defense, and Jacob Gilbert added 11.

RNAL _____

_____

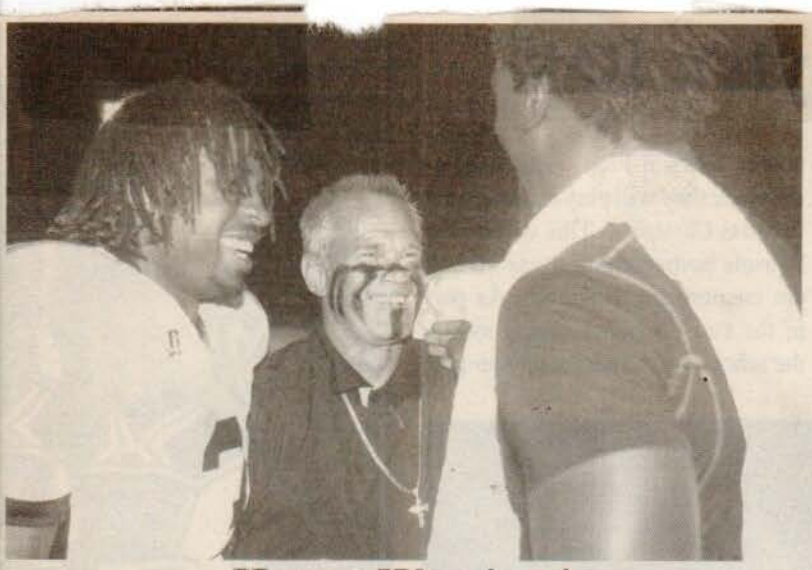
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____



Happy Warriors!

East Central Community College first-year head coach Steve Cheatham and safety Jarvis Wilson (left) are all smiles following the Warriors' 38-7 thrashing of Northeast Mississippi Community College Thursday night in Booneville. Also sharing the happy moment is defensive end Josh Lewis (right). The lop-sided decision was the first on-the-field victory for Cheatham and his squad, who had earlier been notified that Hinds had forfeited its 35-21 victory over the Warriors due to an ineligible player. East Central, now 2-4 overall and 1-2 in the MACJC South Division, will try for a third victory Saturday against nationally-ranked Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College (2-1, 4-2). Kickoff for the Bulldogs' homecoming contest is set for 3 p.m. on the Perkinston campus. (Photo courtesy Northeast Mississippi Community College Public Information Office)

ECCC Warriors Cruise Past Northeast for First Season Win;

Also Benefit from Hinds Forfeit

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The Warriors mounted an impressive drive on their next possession, marching from the 25-yard-line to the Northeast 13, only to have the scoring threat nixed when Tiger defender Jeremy Vaughn intercepted Taylor's pass in the end zone and returned the pigskin to the Northeast 10-yard-line.

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The Warriors took advantage of another Tiger mistake moments later and found pay dirt on their second play of the second half when Taylor and Alley hooked up on their 35-yard scoring pass play. The scoring opportunity was set up when Warrior defensive lineman Jeremy Dillon, a product of Forrest County AHS, intercepted Frances' pass at the 35.

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Northeast did reach the end zone early in the fourth stanza on Jeremy Cannon's five-yard run, capping a nine-play, 55-yard drive.

East Central had an opportunity for another score on the ensuing possession but Tiger defensive back Jimmy Young intercepted Taylor's pass on the one-yard-line with just over nine minutes remaining to nix the threat.

Next up for the Warriors is a division showdown with nationally ranked Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. Kick-off for the homecoming contest is set for 3 p.m. on the Perkinston campus. The seventh-ranked Bulldogs dropped to 4-2 overall and 2-1 in division play after falling 37-31 in overtime to Copiah- Lincoln Community College Saturday in Wesson.

WEEK OF 10-13-08

JUCO FOOTBALL

MACJC/REGION 23 STANDINGS

North

	Conference				All Games			
	W	L	PF	PA	W	L	PF	PA
East Miss.	4	0	175	53	6	1	249	104
Northwest Miss.	3	1	107	80	4	3	152	140
Coahoma	2	2	126	136	3	3	180	184
Itawamba	2	2	61	79	2	5	78	166
Miss. Delta	2	3	90	68	4	4	126	111
Holmes	2	3	115	132	3	4	168	176
Northeast Miss.	0	4	16	126	1	6	45	225

South

	W	L	PF	PA	W	L	PF	PA
Jones County	4	1	144	108	7	1	232	141
Pearl River	4	1	136	78	7	1	215	104
Miss. Gulf Coast	3	1	119	89	5	2	217	130
Copiah-Lincoln	2	3	118	108	3	5	147	157
Southwest Miss.	2	4	89	163	2	5	102	177
*Hinds	0	4	78	110	1	6	117	163
East Central	2	3	135	163	3	5	125	254

*-Hinds had to forfeit 2 wins

Thursday's Games

Copiah-Lincoln at East Central
Pearl River at Southwest Miss.
Miss. Gulf Coast at Hinds
Jones County at Miss. Delta

Saturday's Games

Itawamba vs. East Miss. at West Point
Holmes at Northwest Miss.
Northeast Miss. at Coahoma

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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WEEK OF 10·13·08

Juco football

Co-Lin at East Central, 6:30 p.m.; Pearl River at Southwest, 6:30 p.m.; Gulf Coast at Hinds, 7 p.m.; Jones at Delta, 7 p.m.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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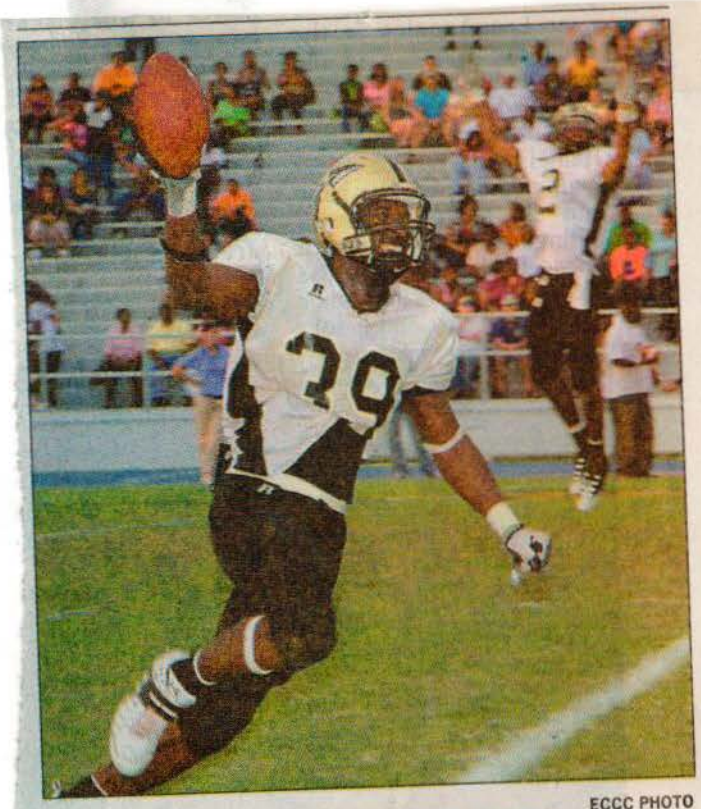
THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 10-13-08



ECCC PHOTO

LOOK WHAT I'VE GOT!

East Central's Randy Carter celebrates after recovering a Gulf Coast fumble late in the game last Saturday. Gulf Coast was attempting to run out the clock when the miscue occurred. East Central scored four plays later but Gulf Coast held on for the 38-35 homecoming win.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

Warriors fall 38-35 at Gulf Coast

from school reports

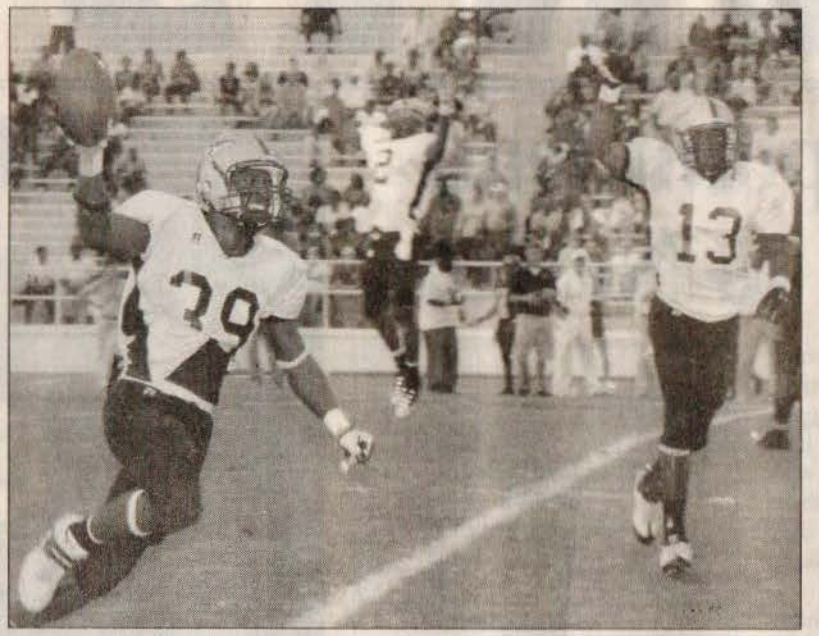
Quarterback Emmanuel Taylor threw three touchdown passes and all-purpose performer Maurice Langston was also credited for three scores and almost another but their efforts fell short as the East Central Community College Warriors ran out of time in their comeback bid for a victory against Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Saturday afternoon in Perkinston, falling 38-35.

East Central, which trailed 24-7 at halftime, outscored the nationally-ranked Bulldogs 28-14 in the final two periods of their homecoming contest, highlighted by Taylor's 52-yard touchdown strike to Langston and Langston's 99-yard kickoff return for a score, both during third-period action.

The Warriors, who trailed 38-21 going into the final stanza, drew closer to the 15th-ranked 'Dogs when Langston successfully executed the halfback pass by lofting a 63-yard touchdown strike to wide receiver Antonio Ricks with 10:23 left.

ECCC's final points came as the Bulldogs were simply trying to run out the clock. A fumbled snap with 1:06 remaining was recovered by linebacker Randy Carter at the Gulf Coast 35 and following a Bulldog penalty, EC took possession at the 30. Four plays later Taylor connected with wide receiver Dustin Alley on a 7-yard touchdown pass with 27 seconds left. Derek Crenshaw made his fifth PAT of the day to end all scoring.

A low-scoring affair seemed to be in store for the MACJC South Division battle on a warm day at A.L. May Stadium, as neither team tallied during the opening stanza, although EC missed on a scoring opportunity in early action. Langston returned a Gulf Coast punt 42 yards to pay dirt but the play was nullified when Langston fumbled into the end zone and the Bulldogs took possession on their 20. A penalty on EC was also called during the return.



East Central defenders Randy Carter (39) of Quitman and Clint Coleman (13) of Louisville celebrate Carter's recovery of a Gulf Coast fumble with just over a minute remaining in Saturday's 38-35 loss to the Bulldogs.

ECCC photo

Gulf Coast, which improved to 5-2 overall and 3-1 in league play, jumped out to a 14-0 second-quarter advantage on Demond Washington's 62-yard punt return and Jamaal Young's 17-yard touchdown run. All-American kicker Sean Brauchle added both PATs and was successful on all five attempts for the game.

The Warriors found pay dirt on Taylor's first TD pass — a 76-yard toss to wide receiver Kendrick May with seven minutes remaining in the second period.

Gulf Coast stretched its lead to 24-7 at the break, following Young's 7-yard scoring run with 1:56 left before halftime and Brauchle's 26-yard field goal, which came with just five seconds left. The three-pointer was set up when Bulldog linebacker Chris White stretched his 6-foot-4 frame to intercept Taylor's pass at the EC 36 and returned the pigskin to the 9.

The Bulldogs appeared to put the game out of reach early in the third period, when quarterback Greg Jenkins and running back Brandon Johnson hooked up on a 9-yard touchdown pass, capping a 10-play, 80-yard drive, resulting in a 31-7 advantage.

The Warriors began their comeback attempt on the ensuing possession with Taylor and Langston combining talents on the 52-yard pass play.

Gulf Coast put its final points on the scoreboard late in the third period on Jenkins' 49-yard touchdown strike to wide receiver Kelvin Bolden.

Taylor completed 17-of-35 passes for 253 yards and three scores. He had one interception. May was the top receiver with three catches for 106 yards and one score.

Warrior fans asked to wear black for Co-Lin game

East Central Community College football fans are asked to wear black for the Warriors' final home game Thursday night against Copiah-Lincoln Community College.

Warrior supporters are also invited to participate in tailgating activities getting under way at 4:30 p.m. near the entrance to Bailey Stadium. The pre-game festivities are sponsored by the Warrior Club for members and prospective members of the athletic-fundraising group.

Kickoff for the MACJC South Division battle is set for 6:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium.

The Warriors are 2-5, while the Wolves are 3-4.

WEEK OF 10·13·08

State junior colleges

East Central 35, Copiah-Lincoln 28, OT

DECATUR — Maurice Langston scored on a 4-yard run in overtime to hoist East Central on a night when the opposing quarterbacks dominated.

With one minute left in regulation, Emmanuel Taylor led the Warriors on a six-play, 52-yard, game-tying drive that was capped by his 5-yard run with 3 seconds left. He also had TD runs of 68 and 75 yards to total 220 yards on 18 carries.

Co-Lin quarterback Mich Davis did his damage through the air, completing 23 of 36 passes for 323 yars and three TDs. He also ran for a TD.

The outcome left both South Division teams with 3-5, 2-3 records.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

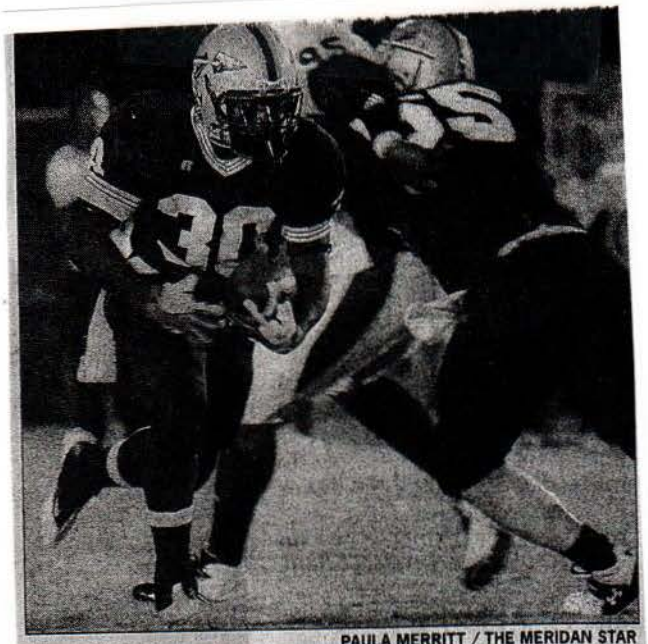
NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER ✓

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 10-13-08



PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDAN STAR

SLIPPING THROUGH

East Central Community College's Derrick Cade finds some running room up the middle against Copiah-Lincoln Community College Thursday night in Decatur. ECCC won 35-28 in overtime. Story, page B1.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN	NESHOBA DEMOCRAT
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES	NEWTON RECORD
UNION APPEAL	MERIDIAN STAR ✓
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL	CLARION-LEDGER
SPIRIT OF MORTON	THE PHILADELPHIAN

WEEK OF 10·13·00

Junior College Football

Still searching for home-field advantage

ECCC PHOTO

BEATING THE LAST GUY

Warrior speedster Maurice Langston (1) escapes the grasps of a Gulf Coast tackler as he nears the goal line during his 99-yard kickoff return, one of three scores credited to the Northeast Lauderdale High School product Saturday. Langston also scored on a 52-yard pass from quarterback Emmanuel Taylor and threw a 63-yard touchdown strike to Antonio Hicks.

ECCC seeking first win in Decatur as the Warriors host 'Black-out game' against Co-Lin

By Chris Brennaman
assistant sports editor

A week after notching its first win — and second, thanks to a forfeit — East Central Community College bounced back to earth Saturday with a loss to Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College.

The Bulldogs, who moved up three spots to No. 12 in the NJCAA football poll following the win, gave ECCC a chance to get back in the game, but it was too little, too late for the Warriors.

With East Central (2-5, 1-3 MACJC South Division) trailing 38-28, former Quitman Panther Randy Carter recovered a fumble on a mishandled snap as MGCCC was trying to run out the clock.

The turnover gave the Warriors the ball only 35 yards away from a touchdown. They would score four plays later, making it a three-point game.

The Warriors were unable to recover the onside kick with 27 seconds remaining in the game and failed in their bid to spoil Gulf Coast's homecoming.

Maurice Langston — the ex-Northeast Lauderdale standout — had a hand in three of the four touchdowns for EC as he caught a 52-yard score, threw a 63-yard half back pass for six points and returned a Bulldog kickoff 99 yards to the promised land.

Langston is tied for first in the state in individual scoring. He has scored 11 touchdowns in seven games. The former Trojan is also the only player in Mississippi that ranks in the top-10 for both rushing yards and receiving yards.

East Central takes on Copiah-Lincoln Community College tonight at 6:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium.

See ECCC
Page Bx

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____ CLARION-LEDGER _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____ THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

week of 10/13/08

Continued from previous page

ECCC

From Page B1

After opening the season with three straight losses, the Wolves (3-4, 2-2) enter the game winning three of their last four.

With more than 300 yards of passing offense last week, EC reached the 1,500-yard plateau for the season. The Warriors currently sit third in the state, averaging more than 360 yards.

Co-Lin's defense ranks slightly higher than ECCC's as the Wolves have given up 11 fewer yards than the Warriors.

The game — which is being dubbed as a "Blackout game" — is the final home contest of the year for East Central.

week of 10/13/08

Juco Football:

Warriors

By Chris Brennaman
assistant sports editor

DECATUR — With less than 3 minutes to play in the game and trailing by a touchdown, East Central Community College just about needed a miracle as Copiah-Lincoln looked primed to run the clock out and hold on for the victory.

The Warrior defense came up with a stop and with 60 seconds on the clock quarterback Emmanuel Taylor led the ECCC offense 52 yards in seven plays.

EAST CENTRAL 35
CO-LIN 28

Taylor scored the game-tying touchdown with 3 seconds left in regulation and Maurice Langston, a former Northeast Lauderdale star, scored in overtime as East Central won its final home game of the year 35-28.

"I'm proud of this team," first-year Warrior coach Steve Cheatham said after EC improved to 3-5 overall, 2-3 in the South. "They fought hard and never stopped believing.

Taylor, who didn't complete a pass until the third quarter, hit on 3-of-4 passes on the final drive of the fourth period — the lone incompletion was a spike to stop the clock with 9 seconds left at the Wolfpack 6-yard line.

On second-and-goal, Taylor pulled the ball down and ran it in for his third touchdown of the night.

Derek Crenshaw, who played under Cheatham at Neshoba Central for two years, drilled the game-tying extra point.

"There was never any thought about going for two," Cheatham said. "We had the momentum and we felt our kicker was better than theirs so we were playing for overtime."

In the extra period, East Central got the ball first. The War-

Continued on previous page (1)

WEEK OF 10·13·08

www.meridianstar.com

Copiah-Lincoln at East Central

win OT thriller

(2)

PAULA MERRITT / THE MERIDIAN STAR

BREAKING AWAY

East Central Community College quarterback Emmanuel Taylor breaks through the Copiah-Lincoln line on his way to a touchdown Thursday night in Decatur. Taylor and the Warriors won, 35-28.

riors converted two big third downs, including a third-and-11 from the 13. Taylor hit another former NEL Trojan, Lamar Truman, at the 1-yard line.

After a 3-yard loss by Derrick Cade, Langston scored the go-ahead touchdown.

On Co-Lin's first possession, the Warriors committed a face-mask penalty, putting the ball only 12 yards out. The Wolves gained 3 yards each on back-to-back running plays then had two incompletions as EC pulled out the win.

"It's a great boost for us," Cheatham said. "These guys fight so hard for us every week. They keep coming out and giving it everything they have."

Despite the slow start in the passing game, East Central jumped out to a 14-0 through one quarter.

Each of the first two drives for the Wolves ended as they failed to

See **ECCC**
Page B4

APPEAR

CARTHA

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week of 10/13/08

Continued from previous page (3)

ECCC

From Page B1

convert on fourth down attempts.

EC capitalized on both of those opportunities as Taylor scored on a 68-yard quarterback keeper and Langston went over the top from a yard out. The Warriors looked primed to increase the lead after Clint Coleman picked off Co-Lin's Micah Davis and returned it 19 yards into the red zone. East Central gave it back two plays later when the Warriors fumbled the snap.

"We missed way too many opportunities in the first half," Cheatham said. "We kind of self-destructed. We should have been up by 35 at halftime."

CLCC drove 89 yards in nine plays, culminating with a 20-yard touchdown strike from Davis to Quo Vadis Lindsey.

It didn't take long for the Warriors to answer as Taylor carried the ball twice — one for 6 yards and the other for 75 yards — to put ECCC on top 21-7 with a minute and a half to play in the first half. Taylor finished the half with 181 rushing yards and 222 on the night.

Jason Bruce caught a 13-yard touchdown pass from Davis to cut the East Central lead to seven at the break. Bruce threw for 318 yards and three touchdowns on 24-of-36 passing.

Neither team scored in the third quarter as the only opportunity came when Crenshaw lined up for a 33-yard field goal, which was blocked.

The Wolves tied the game when Davis scored from 2 yards out. Co-Lin had five plays of at least 10 yards on the drive, highlighted by a 37-yard run by Ronnie McNulty. McNulty led the ground attack for the Wolfpack with 117 yards on 23 carries.

Following back-to-back three-and-outs by the Warriors, Co-Lin took its first lead of the game with 4:07 to play. Davis was under heavy pressure from the defense but managed to escape. He found Price Sessums who went 65 yards for the touchdown.

East Central's next drive ended on a Taylor interception.

The Wolves outgained ECCC 237-173 in the second half and overtime after both teams had 222 yards at halftime.

week of 10/13/08

Continued on next page

ECCC PHOTO

Warrior speedster Maurice Langston (1) escapes the grasps of a Gulf Coast tackler as he nears the goal line during his 99-yard kickoff return, one of his three scores. EC fell to 38-35 to the nationally ranked Bulldogs.

ECCC rally falls short at Gulf Coast

Emmanuel Taylor threw three touchdown passes and all-purpose performer Maurice Langston was also credited for three scores and almost another but their efforts fell short as the East Central Community College Warriors ran out of time in their comeback bid for a victory against Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Saturday afternoon in Perkinston, falling 38-35.

GULF COAST 38
ECCC 35

East Central, which trailed 24-7 at halftime, outscored the nationally-ranked Bulldogs 28-14 in the final two periods of their homecoming contest, highlighted by Taylor's 52-yard touchdown strike to Langston and Langston's 99-yard kickoff return for a score, both during third-period action. Taylor is a product of Early County High School in Blakely, Ga., and Langston hails from Northeast Lauderdale High School in Meridian.

The Warriors, who trailed 38-21 going into the final stanza, drew closer to the 15th-ranked 'Dogs when Langston successfully executed the halfback pass by lofting a 63-yard touchdown strike to wide receiver Antonio Ricks of Carthage with 10:23 left in the MACJC South Division contest.

East Central's final points came as the Bulldogs were simply trying to run out the clock. A fumbled snap with 1:06 remaining was recovered by linebacker Randy Carter of Quitman at the Gulf Coast 35 and following a Bulldog penalty, EC took possession at the 30. Four plays later Taylor connected with wide receiver Dustin Alley on a seven-yard touchdown pass with 27 seconds left. Neshoba Central product Derek Crenshaw made his fifth PAT for the day to end all scoring.

Gulf Coast, which improved to 5-2 overall and 3-1 in league play, began the eventually high-scoring contest by jumping out to a 14-0 second-quarter advantage on Demond Washington's 62-yard punt return and Jamaal Young's 17-yard TD run.

The Warriors found pay dirt on Taylor's first

See **ECCC**, Page 3B

WEEK OF 10·13·08

ECCC

From Page 3B

TD pass – a 76-yard pass to wide receiver Kendrick May, a product of Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) High School, with 7:00 remaining in the half.

Gulf Coast stretched its lead to 24-7 at the break, following Young's seven-yard TD run with 1:56 left before halftime and Steve Brauchle's 26-yard field goal, which came with just five seconds left. The three-pointer was set up when Bulldog linebacker Chris White stretched his 6'4" frame to intercept Taylor's pass at the EC 36 and returned the pigskin to the 9-yard line.

The Bulldogs appeared to put the game out of reach early in the third period, when quarterback Greg Jenkins and running back Brandon Johnson hooked up on a nine-yard touchdown pass, capping a 10-play, 80-yard drive, resulting in a 31-7 advantage.

The Warriors began their comeback attempt on the ensuing possession with Taylor and Langston combining talents on the 52-yard pass play.

Gulf Coast put its final points on the scoreboard late in the third period on Jenkins' 49-yard touchdown strike to wide receiver Kelvin Bolden.

Taylor completed 17 of 35 passes for 253 yards and three scores. He had one interception. May was the top receiver with three catches for 106 yards and one score.

East Central will try to improve on its 2-5 overall mark when Copiah-Lincoln visits the Decatur campus Thursday night. Kickoff for the division contest is set for 6:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium. The Wolves are 3-4 overall following their 21-16 setback to Pearl River Saturday. Co-Lin is 2-2 in division play while EC is 1-3.

The ECCC-Co-Lin match-up has been proclaimed as "Black-Out Night," as all Warrior fans are encouraged to wear black for the home finale. The Warrior Club is sponsoring tailgating activities for members and prospective members getting under way at 4:30 p.m. near the entrance to Bailey Stadium.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____	NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____	NEWTON RECORD ✓
UNION APPEAL _____	MERIDIAN STAR _____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____	CLARION-LEDGER _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____	THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 10-2-08

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

Offensive linemen on the 2008 East Central Community College football squad and their respective high schools include (kneeling from left) Quintin Scott, DeSoto Central; Terry Sparkman, South Leake; Chuckie Curry, Newton; Damion Young, Pelahatchie; and Justin Moore, Leake Academy; and (standing from left) Robert Gaston, West Point; Jarred Fleming, Louisville; Matthew Lewis, Forrest County AHS; Kieandre Jones, Hillcrest, Tuscaloosa, Ala.; and Lorenzo Hollis, Morton. Also pictured is offensive line coach Kyle Watson.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 10·20·08

ECCC Warriors win thriller

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES
sports@sctonline.net

DECATUR—After leading throughout most of their MACJC South Division match-up with visiting Copiah-Lincoln Community College Thursday, East Central Community College's Warriors found themselves searching for a miracle with a minute left in regulation and the football gods responded via quarterback Emmanuel Taylor whose five-yard run with three seconds left capped a 52-yard drive and tied the contest at 28-28.

East Central began the overtime period on offense and found the end zone on its eighth play from the 25-yard line on Maurice Langston's one-yard plunge. Derek Crenshaw's fifth PAT of the night put EC out front 35-28.

The Warrior defense-which had earlier stopped the potent Co-Lin offense on several four-and-short situations - again rose to the occasion as free safety Bruce Williams knocked down quarterback Micah Davis' toss into the end zone on fourth down from the six-yard line, and EC claimed its home finale.

"I'm proud of this team," said first-year head coach Steve Cheatham following the victory, which put the Warrior record at 3-5 overall and 2-3 in league action, the same record as Co-Lin. "They fought hard and never stopped believing."

Cheatham said going for the two-point conversion when EC tied the contest in the game's final seconds was not an option.

"There was never any thought about going for two," Cheatham stated. "We had the momentum and we felt our kicker (Crenshaw) was better than theirs, so we were playing for overtime."

East Central took an early 7-0 lead when Taylor, a former standout at Early County High School in Blakely, Ga., scored the first of his three touchdowns on a 68-yard scamper with 6:11 left in the initial period.

The Warriors stretched their lead to 14-0 late in the stanza when Langston, a product of Northeast Lauderdale High School, found pay dirt on a one-yard run, capping an eight-play, 45-yard march. A key play during the drive was running back Derrick Cade's 24-yard burst to the Co-Lin 31. Cade is a former standout at Tuscaloosa Central (Ala.) High School. The short-scoring march was set up when the Warrior defense held Co-Lin on fourth and one.

Co-Lin got on the scoreboard in the second quarter when Davis connected with wide receiver Quo Vadis Lindsey on a 20-yard pass play, capping an eight-play 91-yard march, highlighted by Davis' 47-yard strike to Ken Adams to the EC 45.

East Central responded the Wolf score via Taylor again, who sprinted 75 yards for the score and a 27 Warrior advantage.

The Wolves narrowed the gap again when Davis found Jason Bruce open in the end zone for a 13-yard TD pass with just 10 seconds remaining until halftime, capping an eight-play, 64-yard drive. A key play during the march was Davis' 12-yard completion to Bruce on fourth and 11 from the EC 35-yard line.

After a scoreless third period, Co-Lin tied the contest at 21-21 on Davis' two-yard run with 10:34 remaining. A key play during the nine-play, 95-yard drive was

ECCC PHOTO

East Central defenders Randy Carter (39) of Quitman and Clint Coleman (13) of Louisville celebrate Carter's recovery of a Gulf Coast fumble at the Bulldog 35-yard line, which came with just over a minute remaining in the division contest. Gulf Coast was attempting to run out the clock when the miscue occurred. East Central scored four plays later but Gulf Coast held on for the 38-35 homecoming win

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

Weekly 10/20/08

Continued from previous page

in overtime

Ronnie McNulty's 37-yard burst to the EC 29-yard line.

The Wolves grabbed a 28-21 lead on their next possession when Davis and wide receiver Price Sessums combined talents on a 65-yard scoring pass play with 4:07 remaining. Sessums, a former Brookhaven Academy standout and grandson of ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame member, the late Howard Sessums, returned the opening kickoff 95 yards for a touchdown but the play was nullified to penalties on the return team.

Co-Lin seemed destined to win the hard-fought battle when defensive back Dequan Menzie made a diving interception of a Taylor pass near midfield with 2:44 left.

But the Warrior defense held and forced the Wolves to give up possession on fourth and 20.

Langston's 33-yard punt return set the stage for the Warriors' game-tying drive from the EC 48-yard line. A key play during the drive was Taylor's 26-yard strike to wide receiver Kendrick May of Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) High School, which set up Taylor's five-yard burst to tie the game.

Taylor was EC's top rusher with 220 yards on 18 carries and three scores. Cade had 83 yards on 10 attempts.

Taylor completed eight of 12 passes for 90 yards and one interception. Receptions were made by Northeast Lauderdale product Lamar Truman, three catches for 36 yards; May, two for 36 yards; and Langston, three for 18 yards.

Crenshaw, the state's top punter, averaged 42 yards on six kicks. He entered the contest with a 51.1-yard average on 25 punts.

Davis completed 23 of 36 passes for 323 yards and three scores. He had one interception, made by Warrior safety Clint Coleman of Louisville. Davis also rushed for one score.

Sessums was Co-Lin's top receiver with seven catches for 121 yards and a touchdown. McNulty led Wolf rushers with 23 carries for 110 yards.

East Central closes out the 2008 campaign by traveling to Pearl River Community College Thursday night. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. on the Poplarville campus. The Wildcats improved to 7-1 and 4-1 following their 49-20 win over Southwest Mississippi Community College Thursday night in Summit.

WEEK OF 10-20-08

East Central 44, Pearl River 38, 2 OT

POPLARVILLE — Pearl River suffered a shocking upset but nevertheless nailed down the runner-up spot in the South. The seventh-ranked Wildcats (7-2, 4-2) will play at North champion East Mississippi on Nov. 1.

The Warriors improved to 4-5, 3-3.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER ✓

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

Weekly 10/20/08

Continued on next page

Warriors end on positive note, beat No. 7 Cats

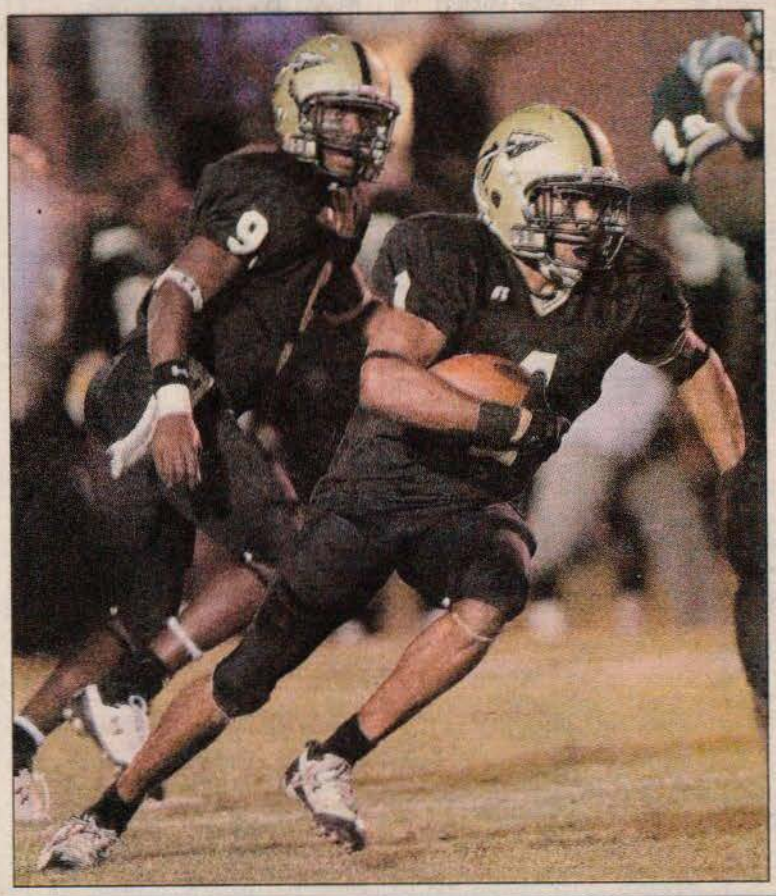
from school reports

POPLARVILLE — Maurice Langston's 10-yard burst through Pearl River Community College's top-rated defense provided East Central Community College's Warriors with a stunning 44-38 double-overtime victory over the playoff-bound Wildcats Thursday night at Dobie Holden Stadium.

Langston caught a 48-yard reception from quarterback Emmanuel Taylor to the Wildcat 4-yard line with 10 seconds remaining in regulation to help send the MACJC South Division battle to the first overtime period. He said after the hard-fought victory that he felt confident he would make the game-winning touchdown.

"Coach (Cheatham) wanted us to set up for the field goal but I was thinking something could go wrong especially after C. J. (Estelle) had just

See **ECCC**
Page B5



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SPECIAL TO THE

GAME-WINNING SCORE

East Central Community College's Maurice Langston gets loose on the game-winning touchdown in t second overtim period late Thursday night Langston, a former Northea Lauderdale Hig School standou scored four touchdowns to help the Warric knock of No. 7 ranked Pearl R 44-38 in an MACJC South Division battle Poplarville.

WEEK OF 10·20·08

ECCC

From Page B3

blocked Pearl River's field goal attempt. So I told him that if I saw a seam in the defense I would score," said the former standout at Northeast Lauderdale High School, who also scored in the first overtime period and twice in regulation.

Langston's fourth score of the evening — which occurred as late-night show hosts Jay Leno and David Letterman were about to begin their respective monologues — sent the ECCC sideline into a wild celebration and provided first-year head coach Steve Cheatham and the Warriors with their third victory in the last four games, improving to 4-5 overall and 3-3 in division play.

"I told our guys before the game that a team with character will beat a team with talent every time," Cheatham said. "And this team has tremendous character. They hung in there and found a way to win."

After a scoreless first period, the seventh-ranked Wildcats found pay dirt on Rashod Henry's 78-yard run with 8:32 remaining until halftime. Corey Caslon made the first of his five PATs on the night.

East Central responded to the tally with Langston's first score, a two-yard run with 2:46 left before the break. Neshoba Central product Derek Crenshaw connected on the first of his five PATs to tie the score at 7-7. The 49-yard scoring drive took just six plays and was highlighted by Taylor's 17-yard strike to Langston, which gave EC possession on the Wildcat 29, and running back Duke Hudnall's 24-yard scamper to the 12-yard line.

The Wildcats regained the lead just before halftime on a three-yard pass from quarterback Emil Jones to wide receiver Sam Robinson with 14 seconds left, capping an eight-play, 71-yard drive.

East Central again tied the contest early in third period action on a 76-yard strike from Taylor to wide receiver Donavan Tate.

Pearl River regained the lead at 17-14 with 3:21 left in the third on Carlson's 29-yard field goal, set up when Devin McNair intercepted a Taylor pass resulting in possession for the home team at the EC 33-yard-line.

The Wildcats took advantage of another Warrior miscue –a fumble by Hudnall at the EC 27 – and scored four plays later for a 24-14 advantage on a halfback pass from Ike Brown to Drew Ezell covering five yards with 44 seconds remaining in the third period.

East Central again rallied and closed the scoring gap to 24-21 early in the fourth period on a one-yard plunge by running back Derrick Cade.

The 71-yard scoring drive took just seven plays and was highlighted by Taylor's 16-yard run to the EC 45, Cade's 9-yard scamper to the 25 and Taylor's 14-yard pass to Langston to the 1-yard-line.

It took just one play for the Wildcats to regain a 10-point advantage, as the speedster Henry dashed 60 yards to the house for his second tally with 12:17 left in regulation.

The Warriors responded with a quick score of their own when Langston tallied on a 14-yard run with 10:45 left, capping a 68-yard, four-play drive. The key play was a spectacular one-handed catch by wide receiver Kendrick May who hauled in Taylor's pass at the 14-yard-line.

The Warriors, who began possession on their 20-yard-line with just 47 seconds remaining, advanced to their own 43 following a 23-yard strike from Taylor to May.

Then on third-and-4 from the EC 48 with 22 seconds left, Taylor and Langston hooked up on their 48-yard pass play to the 4. The Warriors went for the win on first down with 10 seconds remaining, but Taylor's pass to wide receiver Dustin Alley fell incomplete in the end zone.

Crenshaw split the uprights on his 21-yard field goal with 1 second left and sent the game into overtime tied 31-31.

APPEARED IN

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ECCC

From Page 1B

ranked Wildcats found pay dirt on Rashod Henry's 78-yard run with 8:32 remaining until halftime. Corey Caslon made the first of his five PATs on the night.

East Central responded to the tally with Langston's first score, a two-yard run with 2:46 left before the break. Neshoba Central product Derek Crenshaw connected on the first of his five PATs to tie the score at 7-7. The 49-yard scoring drive took just six plays and was highlighted by Taylor's 17-yard strike to Langston, which gave the Warriors possession on the Wildcat 29, and running back Duke Hudnall's 24-yard scamper to the 12-yard-line. Hudnall is a product of Newton County High School.

The Wildcats regained the lead just before halftime on a three-yard pass from quarterback Emil Jones to wide receiver Sam Robinson with 14 seconds left, capping an eight-play, 71-yard drive.

East Central again tied the contest early in third period action on a 76-yard strike from Taylor, a product of Early County High School in Blakely, Ga., to wide receiver Donavan Tate of Hattiesburg.

Pearl River regained the lead at 17-14 with 3:21 left in the third on Carlson's 29-yard field goal, set up when Devin McNair intercepted a Taylor pass resulting in possession for the home team at the EC 33-yard-line.

The Wildcats took advantage of another Warrior miscue –a fumble by Hudnall at the EC 27 – and scored four plays later for a 24-14 advantage on a halfback pass from Ike Brown to Drew Ezell covering five yards with 44 seconds remaining in the third period.

East Central again rallied and closed the scoring gap to 24-21 early in the fourth period on a one-yard plunge by running back Derrick Cade, a product of Tuscaloosa Central (Ala.) High School. The 71-yard scoring drive took just seven plays and was highlighted by Taylor's 16-yard run to the EC 45, Cade's nine-yard scamper to the 25 and Taylor's 14-yard pass to Langston to the one-yard-line.

It took just one play for the Wildcats to regain a 10-point advantage, as the speedster Henry dashed 60 yards to pay dirt for his second tally with 12:17 left in regulation.

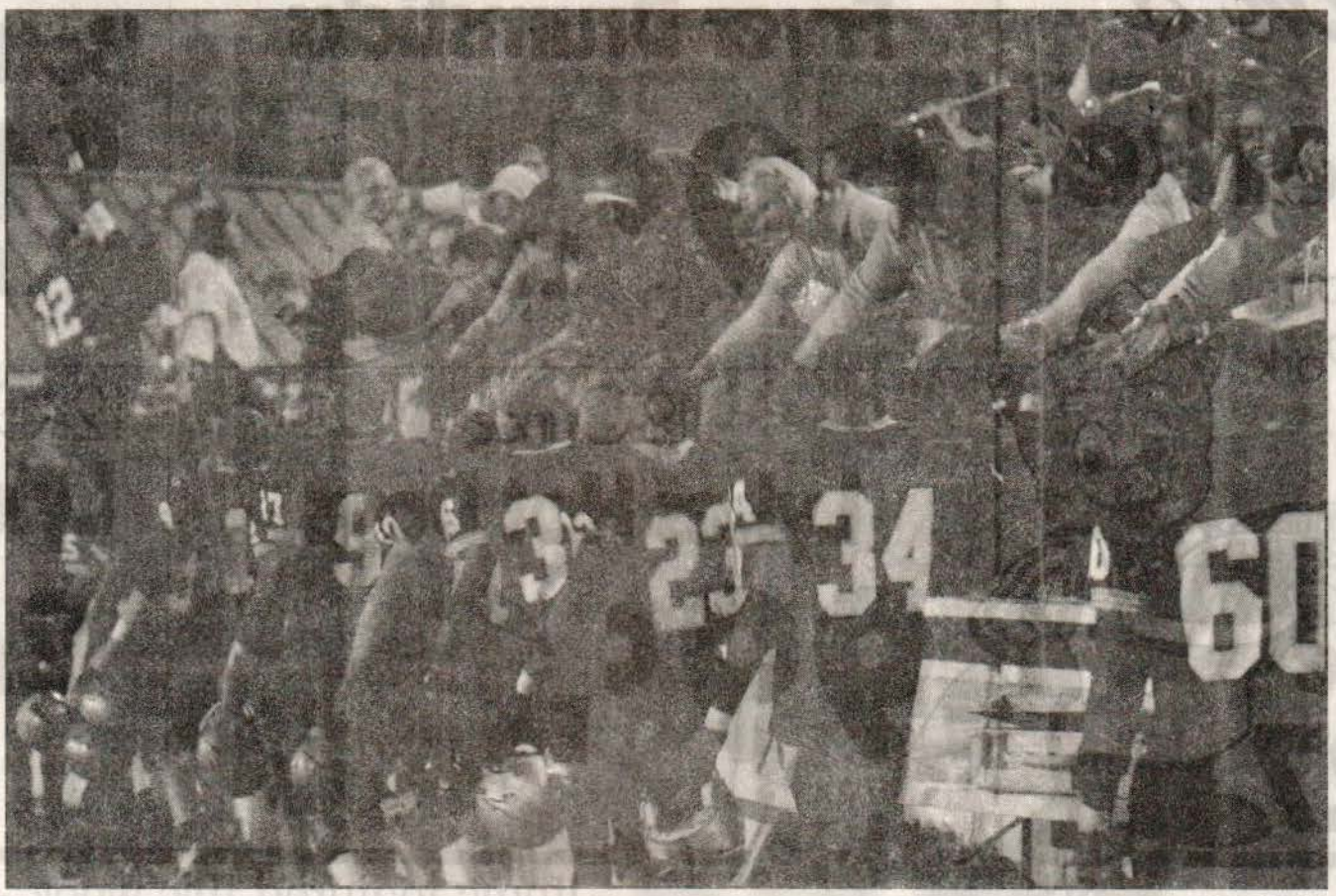
The Warriors responded with a quick score of their own when Langston tallied on a 14-yard run with 10:45 left, capping a 68-yard, four-play drive. The key play was a spectacular one-handed catch by wide receiver Kendrick May who hauled in Taylor's pass at the 14-yard-line.

After an exchange of possession, a Warrior fumble on the Pearl River

WEEK OF 10-27-08

(2)

The Newton Record Wednesday, October 29, 2008



ECCC PHOTO

Warrior football players are congratulated by fans following the squad's 44-38 double-overtime thriller over nationally-ranked and then division co-leader Pearl River Community College Thursday night in Poplarville.

46 with 3:09 remaining appeared to seal the victory for the Wildcats, but the EC defense once again stiffened and gave the offense a final opportunity to score.

The Warriors, who began possession on their 20-yard-line with just 47 seconds remaining, advanced to their own 43 following a 23-yard strike from Taylor to May. Then on third and four from the EC 48 with 22 seconds left, Taylor and Langston hooked up on their 48-yard pass play to the four. The Warriors went for the win on first down with 10 seconds remaining, but Taylor's pass to wide receiver Dustin Alley, a product of Union Grove High School in McDonough, Ga., fell incomplete in the end zone. Crenshaw split the uprights on his 21-yard field goal with one second left and sent the game into overtime tied 31-31.

East Central took first possession on the 25-yard-line in the extra period and scored three plays later on Taylor's 13-yard pass to Langston.

Pearl River responded by scoring on its fourth play in the extra period on a one-yard run by Marcus Ball, sending the contest into double OT tied at 38.

The Wildcats had first possession in the second overtime, but the Warrior defense forced Carlson to attempt a 32-yard field goal, but C.J. Estelle – who hails from Childersburg High School in Sylacauga, Ala. - blocked the kick and EC was set up for the win.

After runs by Cade and Taylor moved possession to the 10-yard line, Langston ended the three-and-a-half hour contest with his 10-yard burst to pay dirt.

EC had 22 first downs compared to 20 for Pearl River.

The Warriors were penalized six times for 60 yards, while the Wildcats were assessed 17 times for 163 yards.

Taylor completed 15 of 20 passes for 276 yards and two scores. He had one interception.

Langston was the top receiver with 10 catches for 135 yards and one score. He also had six rushes for 47 yards and three touchdowns. Tate had four catches for 96 yards and a score; and May caught four passes for 67 yards. Cade rushed 14 times for 65 yards.

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Week of 10/27/08

Continued from previous page (3)

Warriors stun No. 8 Pearl River on double OT thriller

Maurice Langston's 10-yard burst through Pearl River Community College's top- rated defense provided East Central Community College's Warriors with a stunning 44-38 double-overtime victory over the playoff-bound Wildcats Thursday night at Dobie Holden Stadium in Poplarville.

Langston, whose 48-yard reception from quarterback Emmanuel Taylor to the Wildcat four-yard line with 10 seconds remaining in regulation helped send the MACJC South Division battle to the first overtime period, said after the hard-fought victory that he felt confident he would make the game-winning touchdown.

Cheatham

"Coach (Cheatham) wanted us to set up for the field goal but I was thinking something could go wrong especially after C. J. (Estelle) had just blocked Pearl River's field goal attempt. So I told him that if I saw a seam in the defense I would score," said the former standout at Northeast Lauderdale High School, who also tallied in the first overtime period and scored twice in regulation.

Langston's fourth score of the evening – which occurred as late-night show hosts Jay Leno and David Letterman were about to begin their respective monologues- sent the ECCC sideline into a wild celebration and provided first-year head coach Steve Cheatham and the Warriors with their third victory in the last four games, improving to 4-5 overall and 3-3 in division play.

ECCC 44
PEARL RIVER 38

Cheatham, who completes his 31st year in the coaching profession with the victory, praised his team for battling back for the win.

"I told our guys before the game that a team with character will beat a team with talent every time," he said of the Warriors, who rallied three times to tie the contest in regulation and took their first lead in the first overtime. "And this team has tremendous character. They hung in there and found a way to win. I'm very proud of them and our coaching staff....this was a great win for our football program."

The nationally-ranked Wildcats, who fell to 7-2 overall, finished runner-up in the South with a 4-2 mark and will take on North Division champion East Mississippi in first-round action of the state playoffs on November 1 in Scooba. Gulf Coast, which hammered Jones County 41- 8 Thursday night in Perkinston to claim the South championship, hosts North runner-up Northwest the same day.

After a scoreless first period, the seventh-

See **ECCC**, Page 6B

WEEK OF 10-27-08

ECCC Flag Football Runners-Up

"A Horrible Team" actually did fairly well in the intramural flag football championship at East Central Community College in Decatur, as the scrappy squad finished second in the annual competition. Team member include (kneeling from left) Nathan Chaney, Philadelphia; T. J. Robbins, Louisville; Cody Vowell, Noxapater; Clancy Scarborough, Louisville; Spencer Dickerson and Chad Stokes, both of Philadelphia; and Matthew Graham, Louisville; and (standing from left) Sam Lewis, Decatur; Tanner Long and Wade Pierce, both of Philadelphia; Matthew Malone and Matt Wilbanks, both of Carthage; and Tyler Pierce, Philadelphia. Scott Hill serves as director of intramurals.

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WEEK OF 10-27-08

ECCC Flag Football Champs

"Park's Stars" captured the intramural flag football championship held recently at East Central Community College in Decatur. Team members include (kneeling from left) Marcus Holmes, Justin Gill and Medford Hardin, all of Louisville; Willis Hearn, Quitman; Delande Johnson and Dyron Haynes, both of Louisville; and Keyshawn Harrison, Decatur; and (standing from left) Lance Hendrix and Jarrad Ball, both of Louisville; Joseph Morgan, Pisgah; David Bender, Heidelberg; Vonta Burrage and Jamaal Coburn, both of Louisville; Anthony Walker, Florence; and D' Carlos Hunt, Louisville. Scott Hill serves as director of intramurals.

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WEEK OF 10-27-08

Warriors shock No. 7 Pearl

from school reports

Maurice Langston's 10-yard burst through Pearl River Community College's top- rated defense provided East Central Community College's Warriors with a stunning 44-38 double-overtime victory over the playoff-bound Wildcats Thursday night at Dobie Holden Stadium in Poplarville.

Langston, whose 48-yard reception from quarterback Emmanuel Taylor to the Wildcat 4 with 10 seconds remaining in regulation helped send the MACJC South Division battle to the first overtime, said after the hard-fought victory that he felt confident he would make the game-winning touchdown.

"Coach (Steve Cheatham) wanted us to set up for the field goal, but I was thinking something could go wrong especially after C. J. (Estelle) had just blocked Pearl River's field goal attempt. So I told him that if I saw a seam in the defense I would score," said the former standout at Northeast Lauderdale, who also tallied in the first overtime and scored twice in regulation.

Langston's fourth score of the evening sent the ECCC sideline into a wild celebration and provided Cheatham and the Warriors with their third victory in the last four games, improving to 4-5 overall and 3-3 in division play.

Cheatham, who completed his 31st year in the coaching profession with the victory, praised his team for battling back for the win.

"I told our guys before the game that a team with character will beat a team with talent every time," he said of the Warriors, who rallied three times to tie the contest in regulation and took their first lead in the first overtime. "And this team has tremendous character. They hung in there and found a way to win. I'm very proud of them and our coaching staff....this was a great win for our football program."

The Wildcats, ranked No. 7 in last week's NJCAA poll, fell to 7-2 overall and finished runner-up in the South with a 4-2 mark.

After a scoreless first period, the Wildcats found pay dirt on Rashod Henry's 78-yard run with 8:32 remaining until halftime. Corey Caslon made the first of his five PATs.

ECCC responded to the tally with Langston's first score, a 2-yard run with 2:46 left before the break. Derek Crenshaw connected on the first of his five PATs to tie the score at 7-7. The 49-yard scoring drive took just six plays and was highlighted by Taylor's 17-yard strike to Langston, which gave the Warriors possession on the Wildcat 29, and running back Duke Hudnall's 24-yard scamper to the 12.

The Wildcats regained the lead just before halftime on a 3-yard pass from quarterback Emil Jones to wide receiver Sam Robinson with 14 seconds left, capping an eight-play, 71-yard drive.

ECCC again tied the contest early in third period action on a 76-yard strike from Taylor to wide receiver Donavan Tate.

Pearl River regained the lead at 17-14 with 3:21 left in the third on Carlson's 29-yard field goal, set up when Devin McNair intercepted a Taylor pass resulting in possession for the home team at the EC 33.

The Wildcats took advantage of another Warrior miscue — a fumble by Hudnall at the EC 27 — and scored four plays later for a 24-14 advantage on a 5-yard halfback pass from Ike Brown to Drew Ezell with 44 seconds remaining in the third period.

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October 29, 2008

River in 2 OT

pass to Langston to the 1.

It took just one play for the Wildcats to regain a 10-point advantage as the speedster Henry dashed 60 yards to pay dirt for his second tally with 12:17 left in regulation.

The Warriors responded with a quick score of their own when Langston tallied on a 14-yard run with 10:45 left, capping a 68-yard, four-play drive. The key play was a spectacular one-handed catch by wide receiver Kendrick May at the 14.

After an exchange of possession, a Warrior fumble on the Pearl River 46 with 3:09 remaining appeared to seal the victory for the Wildcats, but the EC defense once again stiffened and gave the offense a final opportunity to score.

The Warriors, who began possession on their 20-yard-line with just 47 seconds remaining, advanced to their own 43 following a 23-yard strike from Taylor to May. Then on third-and-4 from the EC 48 with 22 seconds left, Taylor and Langston hooked up on their 48-yard pass play to the 4.

The Warriors went for the win on first down with 10 seconds remaining, but Taylor's pass to wide receiver Dustin Alley fell incomplete in the end zone. Crenshaw split the uprights on a 21-yard field goal with one second left and sent the game into overtime tied 31-31.

ECCC took first possession on the 25-yard-line in the extra period and scored three plays later on Taylor's 13-yard pass to Langston.

Pearl River responded by scoring on its fourth play in the extra period on a 1-yard run by Marcus Ball, sending the contest into double overtime.

The Wildcats had first possession in the second overtime, but the Warrior defense forced Carlson to attempt a 32-yard field goal that C.J. Estelle blocked.

After runs by Cade and Taylor moved possession to the 10, Langston ended the three-and-a-half hour contest with his burst to pay dirt.

EC had 22 first downs compared to 20 for Pearl River.

Taylor completed 15-of-20 passes for 276 yards and two scores. He had one interception. Langston was the top receiver with 10 catches for 135 yards and one score. He also had six rushes for 47 yards and three touchdowns. Tate had four catches for 96 yards and a score; and May caught four passes for 67 yards. Cade rushed 14 times for 65 yards.

The 4-5 finish marks the seventh consecutive losing season for the Warriors.

Weekly 10/27/09

continued on next page

EC stuns nationally ranked Pearl River

Maurice Langston's 10-yard burst through Pearl River Community College's top- rated defense provided East Central Community College's Warriors with a stunning 44-38 double-overtime victory over the playoff-bound Wildcats Thursday night at Dobie Holden Stadium in Poplarville.

Langston, whose 48-yard reception from quarterback Emmanuel Taylor to the Wildcat four-yard line with 10 seconds remaining in regulation helped send the MACJC South Division battle to the first overtime period, said after the hard-fought victory that he felt confident he would make the game-winning touchdown.

"Coach (Cheatham) wanted us to set up for the field goal but I was thinking something could go wrong especially after C. J. (Estelle) had just blocked Pearl River's field goal attempt. So I told him that if I saw a seam in the defense I would score," said the former standout at Northeast Lauderdale High School, who also tallied in the first overtime period and scored twice in regulation.

Langston's fourth score of the evening – which occurred as late-night show hosts Jay Leno and David Letterman were about to begin their respective monologues- sent the ECCC sideline into a wild celebration and provided first-year head coach Steve Cheatham and the Warriors with their third victory in the last four games, improving to 4-5 overall and 3-3 in division play.

Cheatham, who completes his 31st year in the coaching profession with the victory, praised his team for battling back for the win.

"I told our guys before the game that a team with character will beat a team with talent every time," he said of the Warriors, who rallied three times to tie the contest in regulation and took their first lead in the first overtime. "And this team has tremendous character. They hung in there and found a way to win. I'm very proud of them and our coaching staff….this was a great win for our

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EC Photo

ECCC football players are congratulated by fans following the squad's 44-38 double-overtime thriller.

WEEK OF 10-27-08

ECCC

Continued from page 13A

football program."

The nationally-ranked Wildcats, who fell to 7-2 overall, finished runner-up in the South with a 4-2 mark and will take on North Division champion East Mississippi in first-round action of the state playoffs on November 1 in Scooba. Gulf Coast, which hammered Jones County 41- 8 Thursday night in Perkinston to claim the South championship, hosts North runner-up Northwest the same day.

After a scoreless first period, the seventh-ranked Wildcats found pay dirt on Rashod Henry's 78-yard run with 8:32 remaining until halftime. Corey Caslon made the first of his five PATs on the night.

East Central responded to the tally with Langston's first score, a two-yard run with 2:46 left before the break.

Neshoba Central product Derek Crenshaw connected on the first of his five PATs to tie the score at 7-7.

The Wildcats regained the lead just before halftime on a three-yard pass from quarterback Emil Jones to wide receiver Sam Robinson with 14 seconds left, capping an eight-play, 71-yard drive.

Late in the fourth quarter, the Warriors, who began possession on their 20-yard-line with just 47 seconds remaining, advanced to their own 43. Then on third and four from the EC 48 with 22 seconds left, Taylor and Langston hooked up on their 48-yard pass play to the four. The Warriors went for the win on first down with 10 seconds remaining, but Taylor's pass to wide receiver Dustin Alley, a product of Union Grove High School in McDonough, Ga., fell incomplete in the end zone. Crenshaw split the uprights on his 21-yard field goal with one second left and sent the game into overtime tied 31-31.

East Central took first possession on the 25-yard-line in the extra period and scored three plays later on Taylor's 13-yard pass to Langston.

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The Wildcats had first possession in the second overtime, but the Warrior defense forced Carlson to attempt a 32-yard field goal, but C.J. Estelle – who hails from Childersburg High School in Sylacauga, Ala. - blocked the kick and EC was set up for the win.

After runs by Cade and Taylor moved possession to the 10-yard line, Langston ended the three-and-a-half hour contest with his 10-yard burst to pay dirt.

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WEEK OF 11-3-08

Ex-Northeast standout Langston also honored

from staff reports

Former Northeast Lauderdale standout Maurice Langston has been rewarded for his outstanding sophomore season.

The speedster was named to the NJCAA All-Region 23 team as both a wide receiver and return specialist.

Langston amassed more than 600 return yards and scored three times, including a 98-yard kickoff return.

He also caught 44 passes for 658 yards and seven touchdowns. To his credit, the former Trojan also had four rushing TDs and threw for another.

Additionally, Langston was placed on the MACJC All-State First Team for the South Division, where he earned Player

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Page C7

ECCC

From Page C1

of the Year honors. He earned the laurels for both the wide reciever and return positions.

Langston — a former high school signal caller — was joined his college quarterback, Emmanuel Taylor.

Justin Moore, a lineman from Leake Academy, and former Neshoba Central punter Derek Crenshaw were also on the first team.

Wide receiver Kendrick May, defensive lineman Josh Lewis and defensive back Clint Coleman were listed among the players on the second team.

— *Chris Brennaman*

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WEEK OF 11·3·08

ECCC sweeps Holmes

Both East Central Community College squads improved to 2-0 on the young season by defeating Holmes in Monday-night action in Decatur.

The East Central ladies took a 95-77 win over the visiting Lady Bulldogs while the EC men won 63-52.

Coach Bill Smith's Lady Warriors placed five players in double figures in the win, with sophomore guard Mystee Dale of Choctaw Central leading the charge with 18 points.

Rashima Jenkins scored 16, Alisha McAfee scored 12, DeShouri Spate added 11 and Yolanda Jones of Lake scored 10 for East Central.

The Lady Warriors led 46-30 at half time and won despite a game-high 2 points from Holmes' Tiffaney Hayne — who nailed eight 3-pointers in the contest.

In the nightcap, the host Warriors built a double-digit lead (33-22) in the first half and made it stand up.

Rod Lofton led East Central with 16 points, while Andre Pritchard scored 14. Holmes was led by Jeremy Lightfoot's 20 points.

ECCC hosts East Mississippi Thursday.

— Rocky Higginbotham

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WEEK OF 11-17 08

ECCC Warriors honored

All-purpose performer Maurice Langston of Meridian heads a list of East Central Community College football players who received various honors following the 2008 season.

Langston, a 5-10, 180-pound product of Northeast Lauderdale High School, was named to the All-Region 23 and MACJC first teams as a wide receiver and return specialist. He was also chosen most valuable back in the MACJC South Division.

Other Warriors named on the MACJC First Team are Justin Moore, a 6-2, 270-pound offensive lineman from Leake Academy; Emmanuel Taylor, a 6', 190-pound quarterback from Early County High School in Blakely, Ga.; and Derek Crenshaw, a 6', 190-pound punter from Neshoba Central. Moore and Crenshaw were also selected South All-Stars.

Warriors receiving second team MACJC recognition included wide receiver Kendrick May, a 5-10, 175-pound receiver from Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) High School; Josh Lewis a 6-4, 245-pound defensive enc from Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) High School, and Clint Coleman, a 6', 195-pound defensive back from Louisville, all of whom made the All-Star squad.

Other Warriors selected as All-Stars include Anthony McDonald, a 5-11, 230-pound linebacker from 71st High School in Fayetteville, N.C.; Harvey Brown, a 5-10, 225-pound linebacker from Neshoba Central High School; Dustin Alley, a 6', 195-pound wide receiver from Union Grove High School in McDonough, Ga.; Cedric Hall, a 6-5, 260-pound defensive end from Carthage; and Josh Williams, a 6-3, 230-pound tight end from Jackson Lanier.

Warrior head coach Steve

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Langston, other Warriors receive honors

All-purpose performer Maurice Langston of Meridian heads a list of East Central Community College football players who received various honors following the 2008 season.

Langston, a 5-10, 180-pound product of Northeast Lauderdale High School, was named to the All-Region 23 and MACJC first teams as a wide receiver and return specialist. He was also chosen most valuable back in the MACJC South Division.

He led the league in scoring with 102 points and was the top punt returner with 14 attempts for 434 yards – a 31-yard average – and two touchdowns. He was also among the top kickoff return specialists, averaging 22 yards per return for 243 yards and one score. In addition, he placed second in receiving yardage with 44 receptions for 658 yards – a 73-yard average per contest- and seven touchdowns. He also had 54 rushes for 267 yards - a 4.9-yard average per carry – and scored 10 touchdowns. Langston also had success as a passer, as he completed his only attempt for a 64-yard touchdown strike.

Cheatham

Other Warriors named on the MACJC First Team are Justin Moore, a 6-2, 270-pound offensive lineman from Leake Academy; Emmanuel Taylor, a 6', 190-pound quarterback from Early County High School in Blakely, Ga.; and Derek Crenshaw, a 6', 190-pound punter from Neshoba Central. Moore and Crenshaw were also selected South All-Stars.

Taylor, the only freshman chosen on the offensive first team, finished among the state's top passers by completing 118 of 209 attempts for 1,649 yards and 10 touchdowns. He had 10 interceptions. He also compiled 642 rushing yards on 117 carries – a 5.5-yard average per carry - and

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WEEK OF 11-24-08

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From Page 1B

scored six touchdowns.

Crenshaw led the state in punting with a 49.9-yard average on 29 attempts. His longest effort went for 55 yards. He also handled kicking duties and tied for second in the scoring competition among kickers with 47 points. He made five of 10 field goals and connected on 32 of 34 extra points.

Warriors receiving second team MACJC recognition included wide receiver Kendrick May, a 5-10, 175-pound receiver from Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) High School; Josh Lewis, a 6-4, 245-pound defensive end from Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) High School, and Clint Coleman, a 6', 195-pound defensive back from Louisville, all of whom made the All-Star squad.

May had 28 receptions for 404 yards and one touchdown. He also returned seven kickoffs for 198 yards – a 33.6-yard average- and one touchdown. Lewis was among the state's top tacklers with 56 solo stops and 28 assists. He also tied for second in quarterback sacks with 10. Coleman had 28 tackles and 10 assists and had two interceptions.

Other Warriors selected as All-Stars include Anthony McDonald, a 5-11, 230-pound linebacker from 71st High School in Fayetteville, N.C.; Harvey Brown, a 5-10, 225-pound linebacker from Neshoba Central High School; Dustin Alley, a 6', 195-pound wide receiver from Union Grove High School in McDonough, Ga.; Cedric Hall, a 6-5, 260-pound defensive end from Carthage; and Josh Williams, a 6-3, 230-pound tight end from Jackson Lanier.

Warrior head coach Steve Cheatham and his assistants have been selected to coach the South squad, due to the Warriors' third-place finish in the MACJC South Division. Staff members include James Miller, assistant head coach/defensive coordinator; Brian Anderson, offensive coordinator; Kyle Watson, offensive line coach and special teams coordinator; Fredrick Lyons, defensive line coach; and Derek Pouncey, wide receivers coach. Derrick Jones of Rush Sports Medicine serves as athletic trainer.

East Central finished 4-5 overall, which included a season-ending 44-38 double- overtime shocker over Pearl River Community College, which finished state runner-ups.

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WEEK OF 12-1-08

FOOTBALL

South wins MACJC Classic

BOONEVILLE — Co-Lin Community College quarterback **Micah Davis'** 5-yard touchdown pass to Hinds' **Vernor Wolfe** with 58 seconds left in the third quarter proved decisive Saturday and the South beat the North 16-14 in the MACJC All-Star Classic.

The North scored a fourth-quarter TD on Holmes' **James Jackson**'s 3-yard run, and Jackson also scored on a 20-yard pass from Coahoma's **Marvin Pittman** in the second quarter.

Davis ran for a 2-yard TD in the first quarter, and the South got a 21-yard field goal from East Central's **Derek Crenshaw** in the second quarter.

The North's lead in the series was cut to 17-16-2.

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week of 12/1/03

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Juco Football

Area standouts named all-stars

By Chris Brennaman
assistant sports editor

Several area junior college football players have been selected to play in the MACJC All-Star Classic today.

East Central Community College, which will play on the South team is sending 11 players to the game, while East Mississippi Community College has five players on the roster for the North squad.

The 35th annual game, which is set to kickoff at 1 p.m., will be played on the campus of Northeast Mississippi Community College in Booneville.

Among the Warriors that will be making the trip are area players punter Derek Crenshaw (Neshoba Central), offensive lineman Justin Moore (Leake Academy) and linebackers Harvey Brown (Neshoba Central) and Randy Carter (Quitman).

The other EC players on the roster are wide receivers Kendrick May and Dustin Alley, defensive end Josh Lewis, defensive back Clint Coleman, linebacker Anthony McDonald, defensive end Cedric Hall and Josh Hall, a tight end.

The South team will be coached by Warrior head man Steve Cheatham and the rest of the ECCC staff.

Meridian's Montrez Mosley highlights the Scooba Tech representatives. The wide receiver, who is an MACJC All-State First Team selection this year, also returned kickoffs for the Lions.

Quarterback Perry Trammell and a trio of defensive backs — Michael Ducksworth, KyMario Cannon and Kyle Roberts — are the other Lions on the team.

Jones County Junior College placed four players on the South team — quarterback Early James, offensive lineman Evan Niles, defensive lineman Joshua Stephens and defensive back Derek Welch.

Stephens played high school football at Heidelberg High School.

The North won last year's game 17-14 and leads the all-time series 17-15-2.

WEEK OF 12/1/08

East Central

From Page B3

today's other boys' games, Newton County takes on Lake at 2:15 p.m. and Northeast faces Scott Central for third place at 5:15 p.m.

Morton boys 49
Northeast 48

Shelton Banks took an inbounds pass at midcourt with just under 10 seconds left and drove the lane for the tying basket and was fouled with 5.7 seconds left. Banks canned the go-ahead free throw and a pullup jumper just inside the free-throw line by Northeast's Rodney Brooks at the horn wouldn't go down.

"I can't believe he made that call," said Northeast head coach Lewis Lightsey of the late foul. "You take the game out of the kids' hands when you make that call.

"I give Morton a lot of credit. They made the shots and made the plays. But I'm very proud of my kids. They battled and competed. We weren't supposed to be here. I'm very happy, I just can't believe he made that call."

Northeast trailed 26-15 at halftime and 36-29 to start the fourth quarter. The Trojans got to within 37-35 with 5:46 left on back-to-back 3-pointers by Michael Brown. Northeast went up 47-46 on a pair of free throws by Jamond Hill with 1:19 to go.

Northeast (2-4) got 11 points from Brown, nine from Brooks, eight from Sam Hudnall, and six from Namon Cooley.

Morton (6-1) got 13 points from Banks, 10 from Derrell Taylor, nine from Willie Readus, and eight from Chris McClendon.

Newton 64
Scott Central 59

Newton jumped out to a 52-38 lead over the first three quarters in winning the rematch of last year's Class 2A state championship. The Tigers took a 32-20 lead into halftime of the battle of Division 5-2A rivals.

Keondre Hodges scored 15 points in the third quarter in leading Newton (3-3) with 23 points. The Tigers also got 12 points from Dominique Williams and 10 from Dwayne Bingham.

Scott Central (2-2) got 23 points from Kent McKee, 17 from Xavier Triplett, and nine from Cordell Jackson.

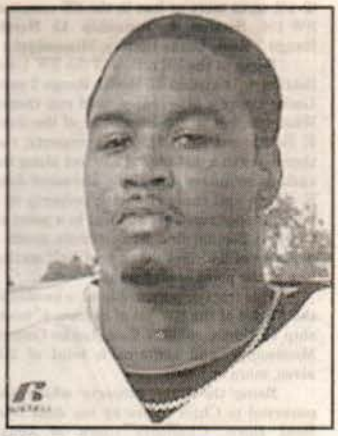
APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____
UNION APPEAL _____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
NEWTON RECORD _____
MERIDIAN STAR ✓
CLARION-LEDGER _____
THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 12-1-08

MOORE



HALL

Leake duo preps to represent EC in all-star game

While East Central Community College will be well represented in the Mississippi Association of Community/Junior Colleges All-Star Classic on Saturday, two of those athletes hail from Leake County.

Leake Academy alumnus Justin Moore and Carthage graduate Cedric Hall will represent the Warriors in the game scheduled for kickoff at 1 p.m. on the campus of Northeast Community College in Booneville.

Moore, a 6'2", 270-pound offensive lineman, was named to the first team, while Hall, a 6'5", 260-pound defensive end, was named to the second team.

In this the 35th edition of the All-Star Classic, the South team of which Moore and Hall will be members will be led by ECCC head coach Steve Cheatham and his staff.

Thirty-three players were chosen for the North and South squads with each of the state's 14 MACJC schools contributing at least three members.

The Warriors finished the 2008 season with a record of 4-5.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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week of 12/1/08

Continued on next page

Numerous ECCC Warriors receive postseason honors

from school reports

All-purpose performer Maurice Langston of Meridian heads a list of East Central Community College football players who received various honors following the 2008 season.

Langston, a 5-foot-10, 180-pound product of Northeast Lauderdale High School, was named to the All-Region 23 and MACJC first teams as a wide receiver and return specialist. He was also chosen Most Valuable Back in the MACJC South Division.

Langston led the league in scoring with 102 points and was the top punt returner with 14 attempts for 434 yards — a 31-yard average — and two touchdowns. He was also among the top kickoff return specialists, averaging 22 yards per return for 243 yards and one score. In addition, he placed second in receiving yardage with 44 receptions for 658 yards — a 73-yard average per contest- and seven touchdowns. He also had 54 rushes for 267 yards — a 4.9-yard average per carry — and scored 10 touchdowns. Langston also had success as a passer, as he completed his only attempt for a 64-yard touchdown strike.

Other Warriors named on the MACJC First Team are Justin Moore, a 6-foot-2, 270-pound offensive lineman from Leake Academy; Emmanuel Taylor, a 6-foot, 190-pound quarterback from Early County High School in Blakely, Ga.; and Derek Crenshaw, a 6-foot, 190-pound punter from Neshoba Central. Moore and Crenshaw were also selected South All-Stars.

Taylor, the only freshman chosen on the offensive first team, finished among the state's top passers by completing 118-of-209 attempts for 1,649 yards and 10 touchdowns. He had 10 interceptions. He also compiled 642 rushing yards on 117 carries — a 5.5-yard average per carry — and scored six touchdowns.

Crenshaw led the state in punting with a 49.9-yard average on 29 attempts. His longest effort went for 55 yards. He also handled kicking duties and tied for second in the scoring competition among kickers with 47 points. He made 5-of-10 field goals and connected on 32-of-34 extra points.

Warriors receiving second team MACJC recognition included wide receiver Kendrick May, a 5-foot-10, 175-pound receiver from Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) High School; Josh Lewis, a 6-foot-4, 245-pound defensive end from Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) High School, and Clint Coleman, a 6-foot, 195-pound defensive back from Louisville, all of whom made the All-Star squad.

May had 28 receptions for 404 yards and one touchdown. He also returned seven kick-

Continued on 4B...
See ECCC...

WEEK OF 12-1-08

ECCC...

Continued from 3B...

offs for 198 yards — a 33.6-yard average — and one touchdown. Lewis was among the state's top tacklers with 56 solo stops and 28 assists. He also tied for second in quarterback sacks with 10. Coleman had 28 tackles and 10 assists and had two interceptions.

Other Warriors selected as All-Stars include Anthony McDonald, a 5-foot-11, 230-pound linebacker from 71st High School in Fayetteville, N.C.; Harvey Brown, a 5-foot-10, 225-pound linebacker from Neshoba Central High School; Dustin Alley, a 6-foot, 195-pound wide receiver from Union Grove High School in McDonough, Ga.; Cedric Hall, a 6-foot-5, 260-pound defensive end from Carthage; and Josh Williams, a 6-foot-3, 230-pound tight end from Jackson Lanier.

Warriors head coach Steve Cheatham and his assistants have been selected to coach the South squad, due to the Warriors' fourth-place finish in the MACJC South Division. Staff members include James Miller, assistant head coach/defensive coordinator; Brian Anderson, offensive coordinator; Kyle Watson, offensive line coach and special teams coordinator; Fredrick Lyons, defensive line coach; and Derek Pouncey, wide receivers coach. Derrick Jones of Rush Sports Medicine serves as athletic trainer.

East Central finished 4-5 overall, which included a season-ending 44-38 double-overtime shocker over Pearl River Community College, which finished state runner-ups.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 12-8-08

ECCC players fuel South win

East Central Community College players made their presense felt in the 35th Annual MACJC All-Star Classic Saturday in Booneville, as the South squad notched a 1614 win over the North.

Carthage graduate and current ECCC defensive end Cedric Hall registered four tackles and a sack in the game.

Leake Academy alumnus Justin Moore occupied a spot on the offensive line as well.

ECCC receiver Dustin Alley was named the most valuable offensive player in the game with four receptions for 82 yards.

Punter/kcier Derek Crenshaw of Neshoba Central aided the South's cause as well wtih a 21-yard field goal to put the team on top 9-7 at half.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 12-8-08

Junior College Football

NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE PHOTO

RIGHT UP HIS ALLEY

Northeast Mississippi Community College Athletic Director Ricky Ford (right) presents the South Offensive Most Valuable Player trophy to East Central Community College wide receiver Dustin Alley after the MACJC All-Star game.

Warriors shine in All-Star game

from school reports

East Central Community College wide receiver Dustin Alley was named most valuable offensive player after helping lead the South All-Stars to a 16-14 victory over the North in the 35th annual MACJC All-Star Classic at Northeast Mississippi Community College's Keenum Stadium on the Booneville campus.

Alley helped lead the South All-Stars to a 16-14 victory over the North in the 35th-annual MACJC All-Star Classic.

The wide receiver had four receptions for 82 yards as the South snapped a two-game losing skid to the North in the annual matchup of the state's top junior college football players.

The North now holds a slim 17-16-2 edge in the series, which began in 1973.

Also having a standout performance was wide receiver Lamar Truman, who hauled in two catches for 50 yards. Truman, a late addition to the South squad, is a product of Northeast Lauderdale High School in Meridian.

Truman replaced wide receiver Kendrick May on the roster after May was injured during workouts Friday morning.

Standout kicker/punter Derek Crenshaw contributed to the South victory by connecting on a 21-yard field goal and adding a PAT. Crenshaw's field goal came in the second quarter and provided the South with 9-7 advantage at halftime.

Crenshaw, a former standout at Neshoba Central High School, received first team All-State honors as a punter following the 2008 campaign.

On the defensive side, several Warriors made an impact in the South's victory including linebacker Randy Carter of Quitman (four tackles, two assists and a fumble recovery), linebacker Anthony McDonald (three tackles and two assists), linebacker Harvey Brown of Neshoba Central (five tackles and one assist), defensive end Cedric Hall (four tackles and a quarterback sack), and defensive lineman Josh Lewis (two tackles and a sack).

Warrior head coach Steve Cheatham, who served as South team head coach, said he was "very proud" of his team's performance, "especially the ECCC players."

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

12-8-08

ECCC's Alley Named Offensive MVP In South All-Stars' 16-14 Win

East Central Community College wide receiver Dustin Alley was named most valuable offensive player after helping lead the South All-Stars to a 16-14 victory over the North in the 35th annual MACJC All-Star Classic held Saturday, Dec. 6 at Northeast Mississippi Community College's Keenum Stadium on the Booneville campus.

Alley, a former standout at Union Grove High School in McDonough, Ga., had four receptions for 82 yards as the South snapped a two-game losing skid to the North in the annual matchup of the state's top JUCO football players. The North now holds a slim 17-16-2 edge in the series, which began in 1973.

Also having a standout performance was wide receiver Lamar Truman, who hauled in two catches for 50 yards. Truman, a late addition to the South squad, is a product of Northeast Lauderdale High School in Meridian. Truman replaced wide receiver Kendrick May on the roster after May was injured during workouts Friday morning. May, who received second team All-State recognition, is a product of Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) High School.

Standout kicker/punter Derek Crenshaw contributed to the South victory by connecting on a 21-yard field goal and adding a PAT. Crenshaw's field goal came in the second quarter and provided the South with 9-7 advantage at half-time.

Crenshaw, a former standout at Neshoba Central High School, received first team All-State honors as a punter following the 2008 campaign.

On the defensive side, several Warriors made an impact in the South's victory including linebacker Randy Carter of Quitman, four tackles, two assists and one fumble recovery; linebacker Anthony McDonald, a product of 71st High School in Fayetteville, N.C., three tackles and two assists; linebacker Harvey Brown of Neshoba Central, five tackles and one assist; defensive end Cedric Hall of Carthage, four tackles and one quarterback sack; and defensive lineman Josh Lewis, a product of Tuscaloosa County (Ala.) High School, two tackles and one quarterback sack. Lewis was also named second team All-State.

Also representing ECCC on the South squad were defensive back Clint Coleman of Louisville, offensive lineman Justin Moore of Leake Academy and tight end Josh Williams of Lanier High School in Jackson. Moore was also named first team All-State, and May and Coleman received second team All-State honors.

Warrior head coach Steve Cheatham, who served as South team head coach, said he was "very proud" of his team's performance, "especially the ECCC players."

Cheatham was assisted by his Warrior staff who include James Miller, assistant head coach/defensive coordinator; Brian Anderson, offensive coordinator; Fred Lyons, defensive line coach; Kyle Watson, offensive line coach special teams coordinator; and Derek Pouncey, wide receivers coach.

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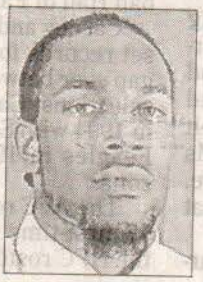
WEEK OF 12-15-08

College Football

ECCC's Langston to sign with Mississippi State

from staff reports

East Central Community College officials have announced that sophomore Maurice Langston will sign a National Letter of Intent with Mississippi State University today, which is the first day junior college players are allowed to sign with four-year schools.



Langston

The former Northeast Lauderdale quarterback has been a wide receiver and kick returner in Decatur and was named to the MACJC All-State First Team this past season.

Langston, who is rated as high as a four-star player by one major recruiting service, chose the Bulldogs over Southern Miss, Kentucky, Memphis and a trio of Sun Belt schools.

— *Chris Brennaman*

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 12-15-08

College Football

ECCC PHOTO

LANGSTON, CARTER HEADED TO NEXT LEVEL

Ready to continue their football careers at the next level are East Central Community College squad members Randy Carter (seated second from left) of Quitman and Maurice Langston (seated third from left), a product of Northeast Lauderdale High School. Carter signed a national letter-of-intent with Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas, and Langston inked with Mississippi State. Joining the duo at Wednesday's signing ceremony were (seated from left) Janice Evans, Carter's mother; Jessie Houston, Langston's mother and Alannah Langston, Maurice's daughter; and (standing from left) Steve Cheatham, ECCC head football coach; James Houston, Langston's father; and Mary Grace, Langston's grandmother. See story, page B1.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 12-15-08

ECCC football award recipients

Members of the 2008 East Central Community College football team who were presented various honors are, from left, seated, Derek Crenshaw, Academic Award, first team All-State and All-Star; Randy Carter, most valuable linebacker and All-Star; Josh Lewis, most valuable defensive lineman, second team All-State and All-Star; and Maurice Langston, most valuable player, most valuable offensive back, most valuable special teams member, All-Region 23, first team All-State and most valuable offensive back in the MACJC South Division; standing, wide receiver Lamar Truman, "Mr. Clutch" and All-Star; Kendrick May, most valuable wide receiver, second team All-State and All-Star; Clint Coleman, Kemba Bryant Most Valuable Defensive Back, second team All-State and All-Star; Justin Moore of Leake Academy, most valuable offensive lineman, first team All-State and All-Star; and defensive end Vonzell Jackson, team captain award. Not pictured are defensive end Cedric Hall of Carthage, team captain award and All-Star, and linebacker Harvey Brown, "Head Hunter" award and All-Star. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

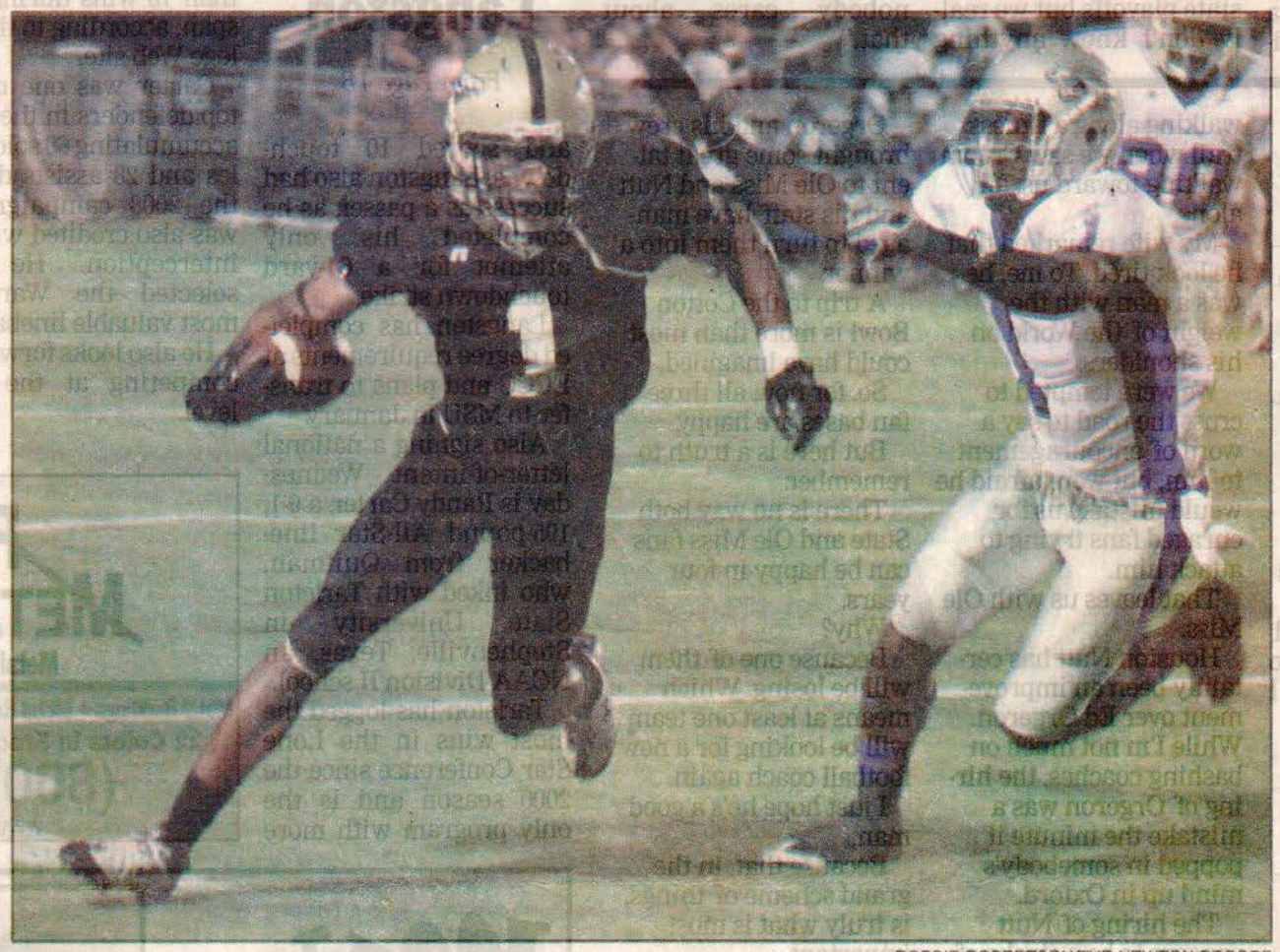
NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 12-22-08

JUCO FOOTBALL



ROBBIE ROBERTSON/THE NEWTON RECORD

East Central Community College's Maurice Langston gets by a Copiah-Lincoln defender in this file photo. Langstrong recently signed a football scholarship with Mississippi State.

Langston signs with MSU

Citing a desire to play in the Southeastern Conference and close to home, East Central Community College football standout Maurice Langston of Meridian cast his lot with Mississippi State University during a scholarship signing ceremony held Wednesday, Dec. 17 on the Decatur campus.

Langston, a 5-foot-10, 180-pound all-purpose performer for the Warriors the past two seasons, verbally committed to new Bulldog head coach Dan Mullen after the two met Friday in Meridian. He had received numerous offers but narrowed his choices to MSU and the University of Memphis.

mentor, Langston said Mullen "seemed like a very intense guy and seems like he has some great goals for the program."

Langston said he looks forward to being a member of the Bulldog team and added, "I really appreciate the opportunity to play football on the Division I level."

Langston, a product of Northeast Lauderdale High School, was named to the All-Region 23 and Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges (MACJC) first teams as a wide receiver and return specialist. He was also chosen most valuable back in the MACJC South Division. In addition, he was selected

er and was named most valuable offensive back and most valuable special teams member.

The new Bulldog led the league in scoring with 102 points and was the top punt returner with 14 attempts for 434 yards – a 31-yard average – and two touchdowns. He was also among the top kickoff return specialists, averaging 22 yards per return for 243 yards and a score.

In addition, he placed second in receiving yardage with 44 receptions for 658 yards – a 73-yard average per contest – and seven touchdowns. He also had 54 rushes for 267 yards – a 4.9-yard per average –

WEEK OF 3-9-08

EC golfers open with fourth-place finishes

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

The East Central Community College golf team has picked up a pair of fourth-place finishes in its first two matches of 2008.

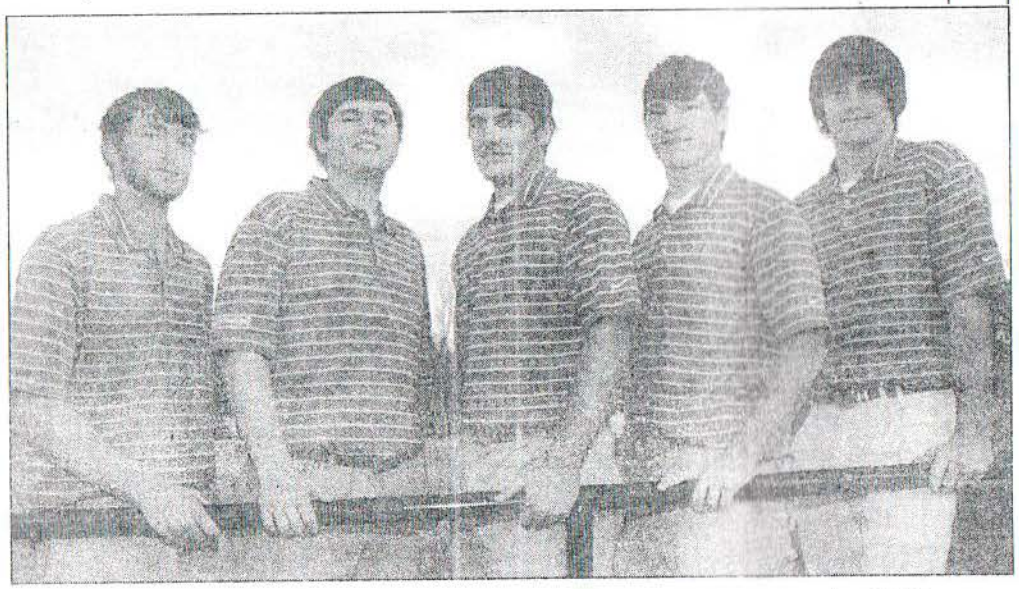
ECCC opened its season in the Hinds Community College Invitational Feb. 24-25 at Raymond's Eagle Ridge Golf Club. The Warriors placed fourth in the 12-team tournament.

Gulf Coast won by 11 strokes with a 36-hole total of 601. Meridian (612) was second, followed by Hinds (638), East Central (651), Northwest Mississippi (652), Itawamba (657), Pearl River (667), East Mississippi (675), Holmes (676), Northeast Mississippi (678), Jones (711), and Copiah-Lincoln (718).

Stephen Poole led EC with an 80-79—159, which tied for 15th overall. Daniel Johnson of Union and Chase Ward tied for 26th with 165s. Alex Deason was in a tie for 28th with a 156. Kyle Killens was 33rd with a 167.

The Warriors hosted the ECCC Invitational on March 2-3 at Forest Country Club. Gulf Coast took first place with a 294-295—589. Meridian (606) came in second, followed by Holmes (618), East Central (624), Hinds (628), Itawamba (633), Pearl River (634), Northwest Mississippi (641), East Mississippi (648), Northeast Mississippi (668), Jones (676), and Copiah-Lincoln (702).

Matt Hungerman of Gulf Coast took medalist honors with a 70-73—143. EC's Chase Ward tied for sixth place with a 75-76—151.



Members of the East Central Community College golf team for the 2008 season are, from left, Alex Deason of Philadelphia, Kyle Killens and Stephen Poole, both of Decatur; Chase Ward of Sylacauga, Ala.; and Daniel Johnson of Union. James Moore, golf professional at Forest Country Club, serves as coach. The Warrior linksters began competition at the Hinds Community College Spring Invitational February 24-25 in Raymond. The ECCC Invitational was March 2-3 at Forest Country Club, which will also serve as site for the MACJC and Region 23 Tournament on March 28-29.

ECCC photo

APPEARED IN:
CARTHAGINIAN
SCOTT COUNTY
UNION APPEAL
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL
CLARION-LEDGER
SPIRIT OF MORTON
IMPACT
OTHER

ECCC golf team cards 8th place

East Central Community College's golf team tied for eighth place in the Region 23/MACJC Golf Tournament held April 28-29 at Forest Country Club.

East Central served as host for the tournament.

The Warrior linksters carded a 637 total in the two-day event, the same score as Northeast Mississippi Community College.

Northeast claimed the Division III title.

Alex Deason of Philadelphia led EC with a 155 (79-76) total, followed by Chase Ward of Sylacauga, Ala., 158 (82-76), Stephen Poole, 164 (85-79) and Kyle Killens, 164 (82-82), both of Decatur; and Daniel Johnson of Union, 165 (81-84). James Moore, golf professional at Forest Country Club, serves as ECCC golf coach.

Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College won the region and state titles with a 587 total. Bulldog golfer Matt Hungerman posted rounds of 68 and 72 (140) on the par 71 course to capture medalist honors. Coach Tommy Snell was named Coach of the Year.

Meridian Community College finished second at 589.

Also competing and their respective scores were Northwest Mississippi Community College, 615; Itawamba Community College, 619; Hinds Community College, 625;

Holmes Community College, 627; Pearl River Community College, 631; Copiah-Lincoln Community College, 645; East Mississippi Community College, 656; and Jones County Junior College, 676.

WEEK OF May 5, 2008

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN X

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES

UNION APPEAL X2

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT X2

NEWTON RECORD

MERIDIAN STAR

CLARION-LEDGER

THE PHILADELPHIAN X

WEEK OF May 19, 2008

Photo by Shondae Sharp

Burk signs with ECCC linksters

Griffin Burk, a senior at Neshoba Central, has signed to play golf at East Central Community College. Burk, was a co-medalist in the division. He was ranked in the top five in the state, and selected All-District three years. Burk was also selected MVP for the golf team at Neshoba Central in the 10th grade and led the team to win the division championship three years. Front row, left to right, are, Chuck Burt (father), Burk and Tammy Burk (mother); back row, are, ECCC coach James Moore and Neshoba Central coach Tommy McCool.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT X

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF June 23, 2008

EC corporate winners

Golfers representing the Cox and Powers Agency in Carthage captured corporate division honors and placed second overall in the seventh annual East Central Community College Warrior Golf Classic held June 19 at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Choctaw. ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin (left) is shown presenting the corporate award to Aubry Cox, Jimmy Bell and Larry Waggoner, all of Carthage, and Bob Jordan of Kosciusko, who carded a 53 on the par 72 Oaks Course, site of this year's event.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF June 23, 2008

Local golfers take 2nd in EC Classic

Approximately $6,500 was raised for student scholarships in the seventh annual East Central Community College Warrior Golf Classic, according to tournament coordinator Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for foundation and alumni relations.

Hollingsworth said 25 teams participated in the four-person scramble, held June 19 on the award-winning Oaks Course at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club on the Pearl River Resort in Choctaw.

The College's Alumni Association has sponsored the annual fundraiser since 2002.

"The Warrior Golf Classic was once again a great event for the College's Alumni Association," Hollingsworth said. "We certainly want to thank all the participants, corporate and hole sponsors, volunteers and the Dancing Rabbit staff for another successful tournament."

The Cox and Powers Agency of Carthage won the corporate division with a 55 and finished as runner-up in the championship flight. Team members were Aubrey Cox, Jimmy Bell and Larry Waggoner of Carthage, and Bob Jordan of Kosciusko.

For more, contact Hollingsworth at 601-635-2111.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF ~~July~~ June 23, 2008

ECCC Warrior Golf Classic nets $6,500 for student scholarships

Approximately $6,500 was raised for student scholarships as a result of the seventh annual East Central Community College Warrior Golf Classic, according to tournament coordinator Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for foundation and alumni relations.

Hollingsworth said 25 teams participated in the four-person scramble, held June 19 on the award-winning Oaks Course at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club on the Pearl River Resort in Choctaw, a Development of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians. The College's Alumni Association has sponsored the annual fundraiser since 2002.

"The Warrior Golf Classic was once again a great event for the College's Alumni Association," Hollingsworth said. "We certainly want to thank all the participants, corporate and hole sponsors, volunteers and the Dancing Rabbit staff for another successful tournament."

Hollingsworth noted almost $24,000 in scholarship monies have been awarded since the tournament's inception. Scholarships are awarded to students residing in the College's five-county district during the annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held each summer on the Decatur campus.

The Commercial Bank team took top honors in this year's competition by carding a 53 on the par 72 course. Team members included Bo Welch, Shayne Bishop and Joedy Blount, all of Union; and Chuck Alderman of Philadelphia.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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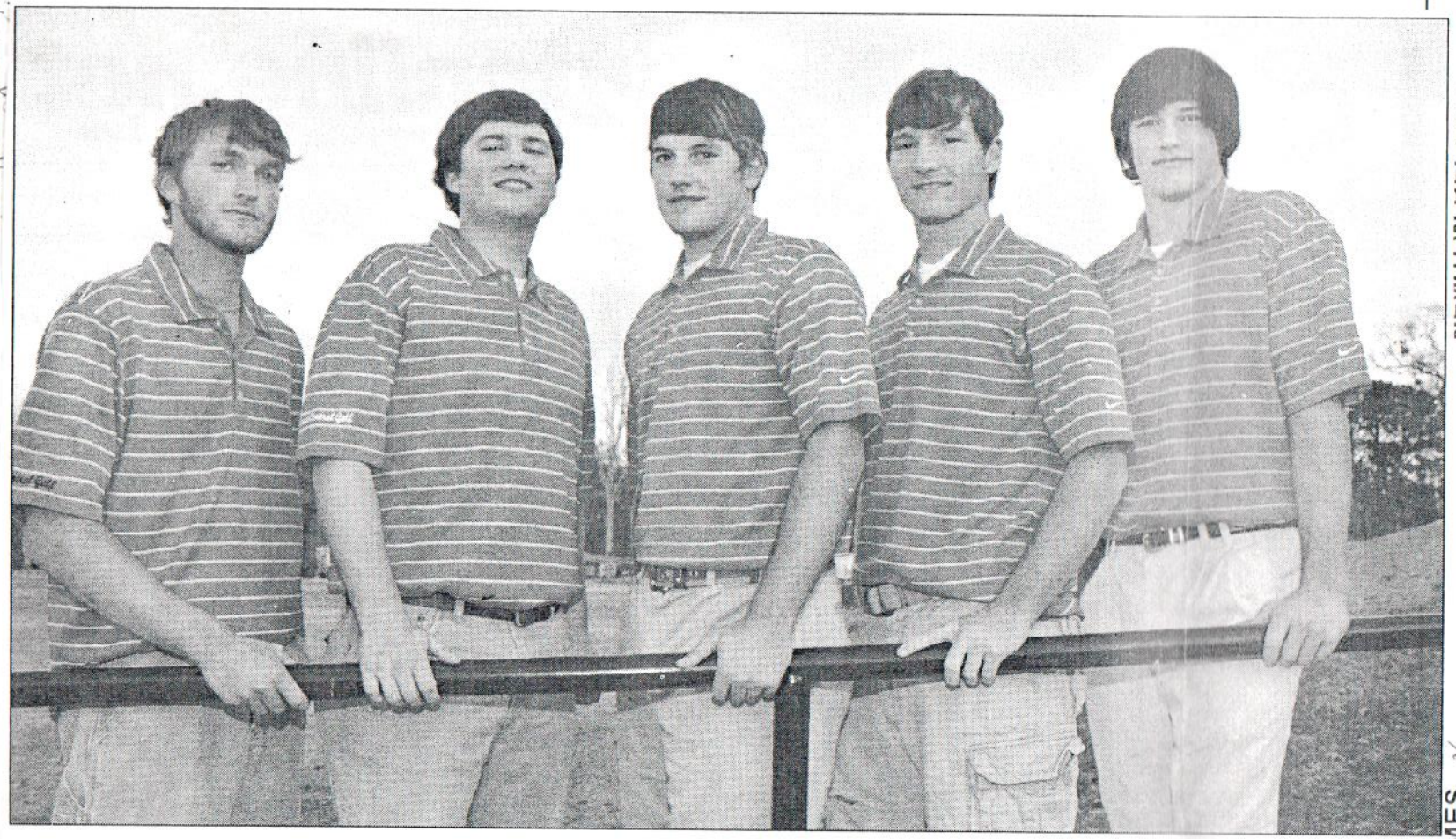
WEEK OF April 23, 2008



ECCC PHOTO

ECCC GOLFERS

Members of the East Central Community College golf team for the 2008 season. From left are Alex Deason of Philadelphia, Kyle Killens and Stephen Poole, both of Decatur; Chase Ward of Sylacauga, Ala.; and Daniel Johnson of Union. James Moore, golf professional at Forest Country Club, serves as coach. Forest Country Club served as site for the MACJC and Region 23 Tournament in March.

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WEEK OF July 7, 2002

Second Flight Runners-Up, ECCC Golf Classic

Golfers representing Applied Geo Technologies, Inc. took second flight, second-place honors in the seventh annual East Central Community College Warrior Golf Classic held June 19 on the Oaks Course at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Choctaw. Team members shot a 68 on the par course. Twenty-five teams participated in the four-person scramble, which is sponsored by the College's Alumni Association and serves as a fundraiser for student scholarships. Approximately $6,500 was raised in this year's event, according to tournament coordinator Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for foundation and alumni relations. ECCC serves Leake, Neshoba, Newton,Scott and Winston counties.

From left: David Whitaker of Philadelphia, Tim Nelson of Choctaw, Mike Miller of Philadelphia and James Robinson of Choctaw.

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THE PHILADELPHIAN ✓

WEEK OF July 7, 2008

ECCC Golf Classic Second Flight, Third-Place Winners

SIVID, Inc. took second flight, third-place honors in the seventh annual East Central Community College Warrior Golf Classic held June 19 on the Oaks Course at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Choctaw. Team members carded a 69 on the par 72 course. Twenty-five teams participated in the four-person scramble, which is sponsored by the College's Alumni Association and serves as a fundraiser for student scholarships. Approximately $6,500 was raised in this year's event, according to tournament coordinator Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for foundation and alumni relations. ECCC serves Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties.

From left: David Whitaker of Philadelphia, Tim Nelson of Choctaw, Mike Miller of Philadelphia and James Robinson of Choctaw.

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THE PHILADELPHIAN ✓

WEEK OF July 7, 2008

ECCC Golf Classic First Flight Runner-up Team

Golfers representing The Citizens Bank of Philadelphia won first flight runners-up honors in the seventh annual East Central Community College Warrior Golf Classic held June 19 on the Oaks Course at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Choctaw. Team members carded a 62 on the par-72 course. From left are Randy McElhenney, Don Cooper, Rusty Barnett, and James Jones, all of Decatur. Twenty-five teams participated in the four-person scramble, which is sponsored by the College's Alumni Association and serves as fundraiser for student scholarships. Approximately $6,500 was raised in this year's event.

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WEEK OF July 7, 2008

Second Flight Winners, ECCC Golf Classic

The ECCC Coaches team won second flight honors in the seventh annual East Central Community College Warrior Golf Classic held June 19 on the Oaks Course at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Choctaw. Team members carded a 67 on the par 72 course. Twenty-five teams participated in the four-person scramble, which is sponsored by the College's Alumni Association and serves as a fundraiser for student scholarships. Approximately $6,500 was raised in this year's event, according to tournament coordinator Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for foundation and alumni relations. ECCC serves Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties.

From left: head football coach Steve Cheatham and assistants Brian Anderson and Kyle Watson, all of Decatur; and Bo Burkes of Philadelphia.

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WEEK OF July 14, 2008

ECCC PHOTO

SCOTT COUNTIANS PLACE THIRD IN ECCC WARRIOR GOLF CLASSIC

The Community Bank team placed third in the championship flight of the seventh annual East Central Community College Warrior Golf Classic held June 19 on the Oaks Course at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Choctaw. Team members, who carded a 55 on the par 72 course, included (from left) Bert Atkison, Steve Gibson, Vance Cox and Tommy Smith, all of Forest. Twenty-five teams participated in the four-person scramble, which is sponsored by the College's Alumni Association and serves as a fundraiser for student scholarships. Approximately $6,500 was raised in this year's event, according to tournament coordinator Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for foundation and alumni relations. ECCC serves Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties.

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WEEK OF July 21, 2008

EC photo

Win Warrior Golf Classic

The Commercial Bank team won top honors in the seventh annual East Central Community College Warrior Golf Classic held June 19 at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club in Choctaw. The talented golfers shot a 53 on the par 72 Oaks Course, site of this year's event. Team members include, from left, Chuck Alderman of Philadelphia, and Shayne Bishop, Bo Welch and Joedy Blount, all of Union. Twenty-five teams participated in the four-person scramble, which is sponsored by the College's Alumni Association and serves as a fundraiser for student scholarships. Approximately $6,500 was raised in this year's event.

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WEEK OF 3-9-08

Sign with EC

From left, are, Cooper Jordan, Philadelphia High; Bass Price, Nathan Rowell, and Jessica Kilpatrick, Neshoba Central High, who have signed to play soccer at East Central Community College. They are with Neshoba Central coaches, Neil Metheny and Nathan Sistrunk, and East Central coach, Kenneth Thompson.

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WEEK OF Jan. 28

SUBMITTED PHOTO

GALISTEL SIGNS WITH EAST CENTRAL

Northeast Lauderdale senior standout Alex Galistel smiles after signing his letter of intent to continue his soccer career at East Central Community College next season. Galistel, who has paced NEL is goals scored this season, will lead the Trojans into postseason play at defending state champion Pearl. Galistel is pictured with his parents, Steve and Donna Galistel, along with NEL head coach James Matthews and East Central boss Ken Thompson.

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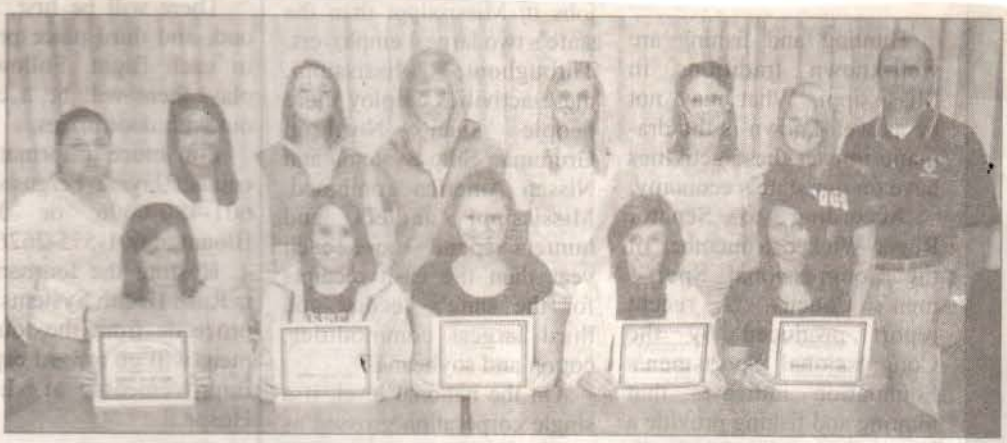

ECCC Women's Soccer Awarded for Academics

Members of the East Central Community College women's soccer team were recently recognized for academic excellence by the National Junior College Athletic Association. The Soccer Lady Warriors achieved a 3.25 grade point average for the fall 2007 term and finished fourth in the nation. Oxford College of Emory University in Oxford, Ga., came in first with a 3.44 GPA. This year's achievement marks the third consecutive year the Lady Soccer Warriors have finished among the top five in the academic competition. The ECCC team had the highest GPA in 2005. Team members, shown displaying certificates signifying the achievement, and their respective hometowns include (seated from left) Jana Johnson, Chunky; Brooke White, Florence; Skye Tindall, Newton; Chelsey Vincent, Decatur; and Kimbo Seale, Meridian; and (standing) Catalina Tarazona, Florence; Sidney Gutierrez, Chunky; Belinda Woodall, Meridian; Kenzie Gaines, Philadelphia; Megan Munn, Decatur; Kristen Pillsbury, Decatur; Kacy Covert, Collinsville; and coach Kenneth Thompson. Not pictured are Allison Leach, Union; Kaley Ball, Laurel; and Megan Klauck, Philadelphia.

ECCC photo

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WEEK OF May 19 2008

ECCC Men's Soccer Award Winners

The East Central Community College men's soccer team was recently recognized for its academic success during the fall 2007 semester by the National Junior College Athletic Association. The Soccer Warriors posted a 3.02 grade point average during the fall term, second only to Scottsdale (Arizona) Community College which led the nation with a 3.09 GPA. Team members, shown displaying certificates signifying the academic accomplishment, and their respective home towns include (seated from left) Josh Moore, Jasper, Ala.; McClain Mullins, Tupelo; Sam Lewis, Decatur; Sam Wilson, Meridian; Kyle Killens, Decatur; and Taylor Booker, Wiggins; and (standing) Justin Traylor and Patrick Creel, both of Florence; Mat Turner, Mendenhall; Dwayne Furline, Quitman; and Zach Allen, Philadelphia; and coach Kenneth Thompson. Not pictured are team members Zach Pillsbury, Decatur; Noah Cook, Hickory; Jeff Grimshel, Vicksburg; and Kevin Roney, Laurel.

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WEEK OF May 12, 2008

ECCC Soccer Signees Recognized

New members of East Central Community College's Lady Warrior and Warrior soccer teams for 2008 were recently recognized during a ceremony held on the Decatur campus. Signees and their respective high schools include (seated from left) Jessica Kilpatrick of Neshoba Central, Jessica Gilmer of Newton County Academy, Bass Price of Neshoba Central and Cooper Jordan of Philadelphia, and (standing from left) Alex Galistel of Northeast Lauderdale, Hunter Wyrick of Laurel, and Steven Stanley and Christian Craft, both of Richland. Also pictured is Kenneth Thompson, ECCC soccer coach. New team members not pictured include Rob Bryan, a product of Stone High School, and Nathan Rowell of Neshoba Central. (EC Photo)

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Soccer opens with split for East Central

Soccer season is underway for the East Central Community College squads, who began the 2008 campaign Friday afternoon at East Mississippi Community College in Scooba.

The Lady Warriors fell 8-1 in their season opener and the Warriors and Lions battled to a 0-0 tie in double overtime.

Megan Munn, a sophomore forward from Decatur, scored East Central's lone goal. Sophomore midfielder Kristen Pillsbury, also of Decatur, was credited with an assist. Both are products of Newton County High School.

ECCC squads were swept by visiting Northwest Mississippi Community College Saturday afternoon, falling 4-0 in the women's contest and 4-1 in men's action.

Sam Wilson, a sophomore midfielder from Meridian, tallied EC's lone score.

Taylor Booker, a sophomore midfielder from Wiggins, was credited with an assist. Booker is a product of Stone High School.

Soccer action continues this week with the Lady Warriors and Warriors hosting Mississippi Delta Community College Tuesday at 2 and 4 p.m. respectively, and the Warriors entertaining Holmes Community College at 1 p.m. Friday.

Both EC squads travel to Itawamba Community College Saturday. Game times are 2 and 4 p.m.

WEEK OF 9-01-08

ECCC Soccer Warriors Defeat Holmes

East Central Community College's men's soccer team picked up their first win of the 2008 season by posting a 1-0 shutout over Holmes Community College this afternoon on the Decatur campus.

Patrick Creel, a sophomore forward from Florence, scored the winning goal for the Soccer Warriors, who improved to 1-1-1. Taylor Booker, a sophomore midfielder and product of Stone County High School, was credited with an assist.

The Lady Soccer Warriors were not in action today.

Both EC squads host Itawamba Community College Saturday, with the women's match set for noon followed by the men's contest at 2 p.m. on the ECCC pitch.

ECCC, Holmes Football Game Moved to Saturday

East Central Community College's football game with Holmes Community College scheduled Thursday night in Decatur has been moved to Saturday afternoon due to wet conditions on Warrior field. Kickoff is set for 3:30 p.m. at Bailey Stadium.

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WEEK OF 9-15-08

Area Sports Briefs

Wilson's goal in OT lifts EC past Holmes

from school reports

Sam Wilson's goal in overtime gave East Central Community College a 3-2 decision over Holmes Community College Sunday night on the Ridgeland campus.

Wilson is a sophomore midfielder from Meridian. Defender/midfielder Steven Stanley of Richland was credited with an assist.

Also scoring for EC were midfielder Taylor Booker, a product of Stone High School, and midfielder Bass Price of Neshoba Central. Assists were credited to Wilson and defender Justin Traylor of Florence.

With the win, the Soccer Warriors improved to 2-5-1 overall. The squad is 0-3 in MACJC South Division action.

In other games last week, the East Central men fell 7-0 to Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College on Friday, Sept. 12 and were blanked 2-0 by Jones County Junior College on Sept. 9.

The Lady Soccer Warriors are still looking for their first win of 2008, after falling 9-0 to Gulf Coast and 3-0 to Jones County. The squad is 0-6 and 0-3.

In games scheduled this week, EC teams will battle Pearl River Community College Wednesday in Poplarville and Northwest Mississippi Community College Saturday in Senatobia. Game times for the Pearl River games are 5:30 and 7:30 p.m., and contests with Northwest will be held at 1 and 3 p.m.

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WEEK OF 9-15-08

ECCC soccer scores OT victory, 3-2

Sam Wilson's goal in overtime gave East Central Community College a 3-2 decision over Holmes Community College Sunday night on the Ridgeland campus.

Wilson is a sophomore midfielder from Meridian. Defender/midfielder Steven Stanley of Richland was credited with an assist.

Also scoring for EC were midfielder Taylor Booker, a product of Stone High School, and midfielder Bass Price of Neshoba Central. Assists were credited to Wilson and defender Justin Traylor of Florence.

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WEEK OF 9-22-08

ECCC Soccer Team Mangers

Serving as managers of East Central Community College soccer teams and their respective high schools are (from left) Jared Mullins, Faith Christian; Jeff Grimshel, Vicksburg; Sara Williams, Philadelphia; Demitri Uhl, West Lauderdale; and McClain Mullins, Faith Christian. Kenneth Thompson serves as soccer coach. ECCC is located in Decatur, Miss. (EC Photo)

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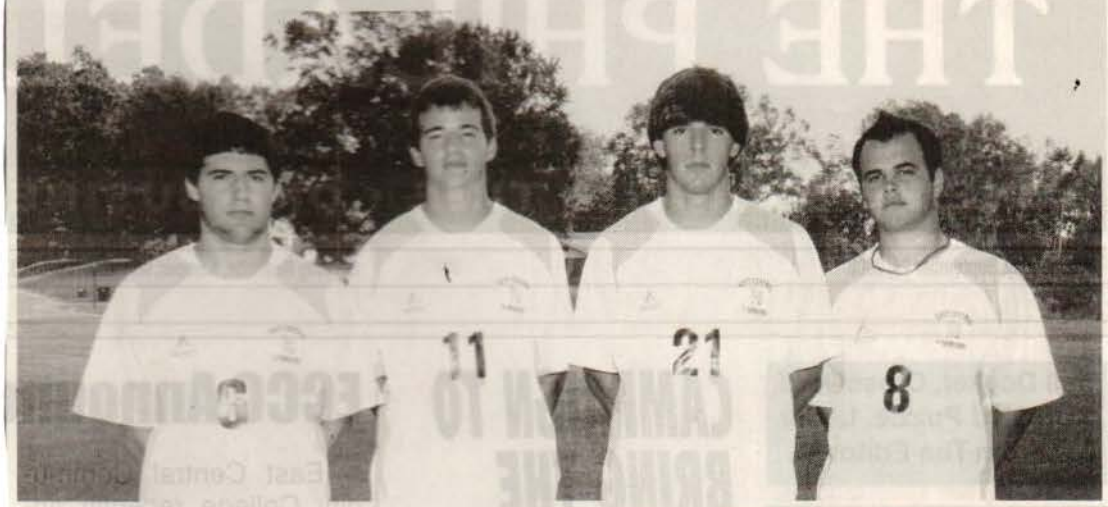
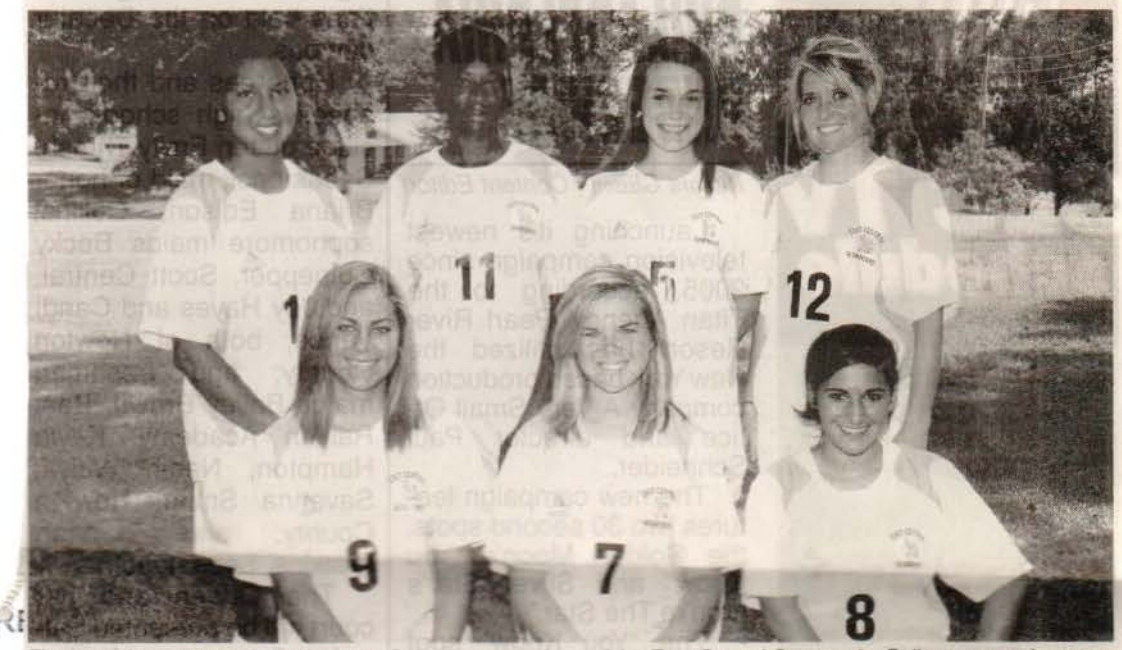
WEEK OF 9-22-08

Neshoba County Members Of ECCC Soccer



These student-athletes from Neshoba County are members of the East Central Community College men's soccer team for the 2008 campaign. From left are forward Nathan Rowell of Philadelphia, and midfielders Cooper Jordan of Philadelphia, and Cameron Lesley and Bass Price, both of Neshoba Central. The Soccer Warriors are coached by Kenneth Thompson. (EC Photo)



These student-athletes from Neshoba County are members of the East Central Community College women's soccer team for the 2008 campaign. Kneeling from left are kicker/defender Lisa Tubby and defender/midfielder Danielle Stafford, both products of Philadelphia High School, and midfielder Elizabeth Withers of Neshoba Central. Standing from left are defender Shandahl Hickman, Choctaw Central; defender Shan Seales, Philadelphia; and forward/midfielder Alanna Fairchild and defender Jessica Kilpatrick, both of Neshoba Central. Kenneth Thompson serves as soccer coach. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 9-22-08

ECCC Lady warriors

ECCC Lady Soccer Warriors

Above are members of the East Central Community women's soccer squad for the 2008 campaign. Team members and their respective high schools include (first row, from left) manager Demitri Uhl and midfielder Kacy Covert, both of West Lauderdale; forwards Megan Munn of Newton County and Julie Taylor of East Rankin Academy; forward/midfielder Alanna Fairchild, Neshoba Central; midfielder Marcia Guerreio, Richland; defender/midfielder Danielle Stafford, Philadelphia; and manager Jeff Grimshel, Vicksburg; (second row, from left) managers Sara Williams of Philadelphia and McClain Mullins of Faith Christian; midfielder Elizabeth Withers, Neshoba Central; keeper/defender Lisa Tubby, Philadelphia; defenders Sara Costello of Northeast Lauderdale, Shan Seales of Philadelphia and Jessica Kilpatrick of Neshoba Central; and manager Jerrid Mullins, Faith Christian; Mendenhall; and (back row, from left) defender Sidney Gutierrez, Newton County; midfielders Kristen Pillsbury and Calli Cumberland, both of Newton County; keeper Jesse Kemp of Corinth; defender Shandahl Hickman, Choctaw Central; keeper/forward Catalina Tarazona, Florence; and head coach Kenneth Thompson. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 9-22-08

ECCC Soccer Warriors

Pictured are members of the East Central Community College men's soccer team for the 2008 season. Soccer Warriors and their respective high schools include (first row, from left) manager McClain Mullins, Faith Christian; defender Dwayne Furline, Quitman; forward Alex Galistel, Northeast Lauderdale; defender Webb Compton, Meridian; forward Nathan Rowell and midfielder Bass Price, both of Neshoba Central; midfielder Christian Craft, Richland; and manager Dimitri Uhl, West Lauderdale; (second row, from left) managers Sara Williams of Philadelphia and Jeff Grimshel, Vicksburg; midfielders Sam Wilson of Meridian and Cooper Jordan of Philadelphia; defender/midfielder Steven Stanley, Richland; midfielders Jerrid Hickman of Mendenhall and Taylor Booker of Stone; forward Patrick Creel, Florence; manager Jerrid Hickman, Mendenhall; and (back row, from left) keeper Paul Sewell, Cherokee County HS, Leesburg, Ala.; defender Hunter Wyrick, Laurel; midfielder Dustin Tucker, Richland; midfielder/defender Zach Pillsbury, Newton County; midfielder Cameron Lesley, Neshoba Central; defender Justin Traylor, Florence; and head coach Kenneth Thompson. (EC Photo)

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Juco Soccer

ECCC PHOTO

LAUDERDALE COUNTY SOCCER WARRIORS

Members of the East Central Community College men's soccer team from Lauderdale County include (from left) defender Webb Compton of Meridian, forward Alex Galistel of Northeast Lauderdale and midfielder Sam Wilson of Meridian.

ECCC PHOTO

LAUDERDALE COUNTY LADY WARRIORS

Members of the East Central Community College women's soccer team from Lauderdale County include freshman defender Sarah Costello of Northeast Lauderdale (left) and sophomore midfielder Kacy Covert of West Lauderdale (right).

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WEEK OF 10-6-08

Bobcats whip East Central twice in soccer

from school reports

LAUREL — The Jones County Junior College Bobcats recorded a pair of soccer victories here Tuesday night at the Laurel Sportsplex.

The Lady Bobcats whipped the East Central Community College Lady Warriors 11-1, while the JCJC men's team blanked the Warriors, 9-0.

The Lady Bobcats received three goals from Kristen Routh and two each from Greta Gerstner and Brittany Wentworth. Lauren Williams, Lauren Meadows, Jerica Havard and Monica Shoemake – who usually starts at goalkeeper – each added goals.

Megan Munn scored for East Central on a penalty kick.

In the men's game, the Bobcats were up 3-0 at halftime.

Aaron Howell scored at the 10-minute mark. Jonathan Jones scored at the 12-minute mark and Howell scored again in the 33rd minute.

In the second half, Jones got goals in the 49th and 52nd minutes to make it 5-0. Randy Davis scored in the 63rd minute and Madison Wright followed with a goal in the 80th minute to make it 7-0. Davis added a goal in the 82nd minute and Branden Anderson scored on a penalty kick in the 85th minute.

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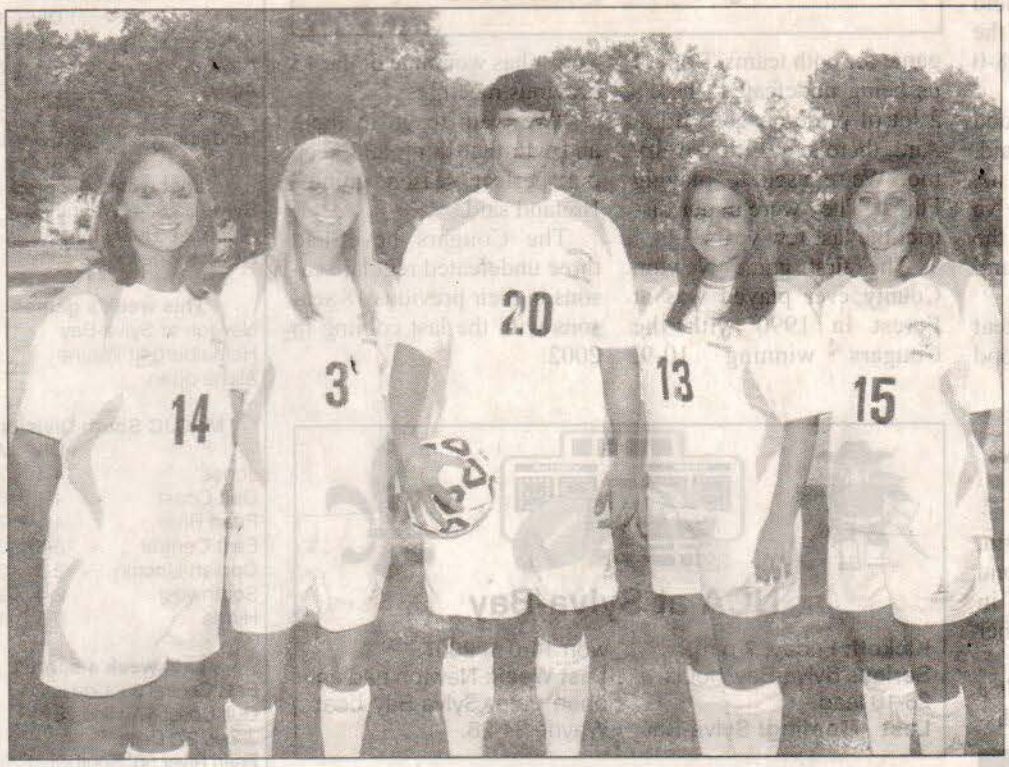

Area Soccer Players on ECCC Squads

These student-athletes from Newton County are members of East Central Community College's soccer teams for the 2008 season. From left are midfielder Kristen Pillsbury, forward Megan Munn, midfielder/defender Zach Pillsbury, defender Sidney Gutierrez, and midfielder Calli Cumberland, all products of Newton County High School. Kenneth Thompson serves as ECCC soccer coach. The Lady Warriors finished 2008 with a 2-12-1 overall record and a 2-8 South Division mark after receiving two forfeits from Copiah-Lincoln. The ECCC men posted a 4-11-2 overall showing and a 2-7-1 division record which included one forfeit from Co-Lin.

ECCC photo

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WEEK OF 10-27-08

ECCC soccer season ends on positive note for Warriors

A 3-1 victory over Pearl River Community College on October 15 completed season action for East Central Community College's men's soccer team, which finished 4-11-2 overall and 2-7-1 in division play under 10-year head coach Kenneth Thompson. One of the victories includes a forfeit from Copiah-Lincoln Community College.

Thompson said he had high hopes for a more successful season, but said the Warriors "played too inconsistent at times to do better than the results they garnered."

"The men had an up-and-down season with many competitive games and some exciting finishes," Thompson said. "They played hard in every match and showed how capable of outstanding play they could produce in the final match. Even with the mixed bag of results, the men's season was exciting from beginning to end."

Thompson said he was especially pleased with his team's defensive performance.

"Part of the key to the more successful play this season was the overall improvement of the team's defensive play, with particular improved play from sophomore keeper Mat Turner of Mendenhall," Thompson said. "Mat had some outstanding games with many great saves that kept us in the game."

Thompson said work has already begun to make the team more successful in all aspects of the game in 2009.

"We have a good core of nine to 11 players returning next season," he said, "and with the addition of 10 to 12 solid freshmen, the men should be ready to show marked improvement in 2009. We will have to go outside the district to add many of the new players for next season as the number of available seniors in the district this season will be insufficient to supply the needed talent for a successful campaign. Due to this fact, we will be looking across the state and out-of-state as well to find the needed players."

Thompson said the women's team, which finished 2-12-1 and 2-8-0 "struggled through a difficult season, finding wins hard to come, as the two victories were the results of forfeits from Co-Lin. However, they worked hard until the last minute of each game and continued to show improvement throughout the entire season."

Thompson, who has guided the Lady Soccer Warriors for four years, said the highlight of the women's season was drawing a tie with East Mississippi Community College, who had at the time the state's leading scorer. The two squads battled to a 1-1 deadlock and Thompson said, "was an exciting match for the girls, to say the least."

He said efforts are under way to make vast improvements for next season.

"We are already working with the returning players to improve skills, physical conditioning and game knowledge," he said. "There will be a good core group of around eight to nine returning players who will be able to help the incoming freshman group to be successful in 2009."

Thompson said he is looking at six to seven in-district players who will likely join the program next year and will be able to contribute "immediately."

"We will also be looking at out-of-state to add two players that can play key roles on the 2009 squad," he stated. "We also plan to recruit across the state for six to seven top players that can come in and help this program excel."

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF _____

ECCC Lady Soccer Award Winners

Various honors were presented to the above members of the East Central Community women's soccer team at the college's annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet. From left are Lisa Tubby of Philadelphia High School, Hustle Award; Kacy Covert of West Lauderdale, Most Valuable Player, team captain, Best Defense, Warrior Award, and honorable mention all-state; Megan Munn of Newton County, Academic Award and Best Offense; and Cali Cumberland, also of Newton County, Most Improved. The awards were presented by ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and Lady Warrior soccer coach Kenneth Thompson.

ECCC photo

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____ ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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WEEK OF 2-11-08

ECCC Softball prepares for another championship season

From Press Reports

After winning three-straight MACJC Central Division titles, fifth-year head coach Scott Hill stopped short of predicting any type of championship for the 2008 version of East Central Community College fast-pitch softball, but it is quite obvious that expectations are high for another successful campaign.

Hill, whose overall record at EC stands at 130-47, said he feels "real good" about the way this team is preparing for season action, which gets underway at 1 p.m. Friday, February 15 against visiting Southwest Mississippi Community College. And as in the past, he anticipates another trip to the state and region playoffs.

"Our team will definitely be focusing on some specific team and individual goals," Hill stated. "We go into each year with some general goals like finishing with a winning record and competing in the post season. We want to play hard each time we take the field and hopefully get a little better as the season goes on."

He added, "We know that the division schedule is as tough as it has ever been. We will have to play well throughout the entire season."

Hill said this year's squad features a "good mixture" of returnees and newcomers.

Hill said he is "very pleased" with the freshman squad members, who include infielders Emily Thrash of Sebastopol, Haley Chipley of Carthage, Megan Munn of Newton County and Shana Easley of Florence; outfielders Genny Freeman of West Jones, Kristen Pillsbury of Newton County, Allison Phillips of Leake Academy and Nichole Ball of Winston Academy; catchers Leah Dennis and Amy Sharp, both of Neshoba Central; and pitchers Codee Russell of Leake Academy, Amber Smith of Union, and Erin Breland of Philadelphia.

Numerous freshmen come to EC following award-winning high school careers.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ___
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ___
UNION APPEAL ___
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓
SPIRIT OF MORTON ___
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WEEK OF June 16, 2008

Russell earns honors as ECCC pitcher

The efforts of East Central Community College Lady Diamond Warriors pitcher Codee Russell did not go unnoticed by coach Scott Hill this spring.

Russell, a 2007 Leake Academy graduate, was named co-Most Valuable Pitcher, as she completed her freshman campaign with a mark of 11-4.

Russell also gained notoriety as the Lady Warriors advanced to regional competition in Clinton earlier this year, as she was named to the second team of the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges all-star team.

The Lady Warriors finished fourth in the state in 2008.

While at Leake Academy, Russell was a member of the first Rebelette team to win a state championship.

She is the daughter of Gilbert and Shelia Barham.

RUSSELL

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF June 16, 2008

Brass selected to All-American squad

East Central Community College fast-pitch softball standout Shenique Brass of Philadelphia has capped her career by being named to the NJCAA Division II All-American Third Team for 2008, announced Scott Hill, ECCC head softball coach.

Brass, who earlier received All Region 23, first team MACJC All-State and All-Division honors, helped lead East Central to appearances in the MACJC and Region 23 tournaments en route to 26-18 overall mark. EC qualified for post-season play by finishing second in the MACJC Central Division with a 12-4 record.

BRASS

The talented shortstop led the Lady Diamond Warriors in 2008 with a .387 batting average. She belted three home runs, three triples and 15 doubles and collected 45 RBIs. She was selected the team's most valuable player and received a team captain award. Brass received All-Region 23 and first team All-State and All-Division honors following the 2007 season, when East Central finished 29-22 and captured a third-straight MACJC Central Division title.

Brass is one of only two Mississippi softball players to receive All-American honors.

Brass is a former standout at Philadelphia High School.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

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WEEK OF June 16, 2008

ECCC Softball Chooses 3 Locals

3rd Baseman Hailey Chisolm, the daughter of Rhonda and Craig Chisolm and Pitcher Sierra Farlow, the daughter of Debbie and Ray Farlow and Outfielder Emily Breland, daughter of JoAnn and Bob Breland have all three been selected to play for the ECCC Softball team in the fall. All three of these stellar athletes attended Neshoba Central High School.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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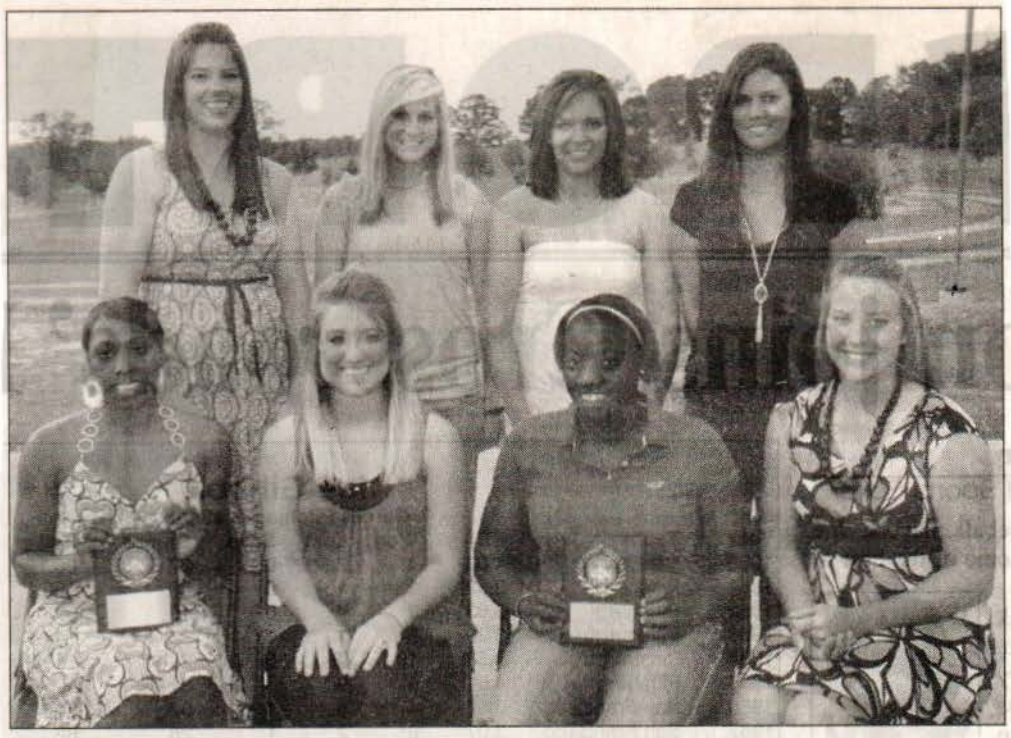
THE PHILADELPHIAN X

WEEK OF June 9, 2008



ECCC Softball Award Winners

These softball players at East Central Community College received various honors at the annual Spring Sports Awards Program. Seated from left are Sondreia Hillie of Neshoba Central, Most Outstanding Defensive Player, team captain award, first team all-state and first team all-division; Lindsey Stevens of Newton County, Lady Warrior Award and team captain award; Shenique Brass of Philadelphia, Most Valuable Player, team captain award, first team all-state and first team all-division; and Whitnee White of Neshoba Central, scholar athlete, team captain award, first team all-state and first team all-division. Standing are Laura Smith of Neshoba Central, team captain award; Amber Smith of Union, pitching award, second team all-state and second team all-division; Leah Dennis of Neshoba Central, second team all-state and second team all-division; and Codee Russell of Leake Academy, pitching award, second team all-state and second team all-division. Presentations were made by ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and Scott Hill, Lady Diamond Warrior head coach. The ECCC squad finished second in the MACJC Central Division with a 12-4 mark and advanced to the MACJC and Region 23 tournaments en route to a 26-18 record.

EC photo

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL X

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN X

WEEK OF May 19, 2008

Submitted photo

Lewis inks with ECCC

Winter Lewis, a senior at Choctaw Central High School, has signed a National Letter of Intent to play for the ECCC Lady Warrior Fastpitch Softball Team. Lewis was selected for the Mississippi Association of Coaches All-Star game that will be played on June 20, 2008, at Newton County High School. She has also been named District MVP and team MVP for this season in slowpitch as well as being named All-District and team MVP in fastpitch. Front row, left to right, are, Deborah Lewis (mother), Lewis and Benson Lewis (father); back row, East Central Softball Head Coach Scott Hill, Former Chief Phillip Martin (grandfather), Graham Lewis (brother) Bonnie Martin (Grandmother) and Choctaw Central Fastpitch coach Glen Shurden.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN X

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT X

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR X

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF May 12, 2008

ECCC Lady Warriors fall in Region 23

❑ Lady Warriors suffer narrow tourney defeats

Another successful campaign was recently completed by the East Central Community College fast-pitch softball team, which finished 2008 with a 26-18 record under fifth-year head coach Scott Hill.

The Lady Diamond Warriors' season came to an end following narrow losses to Northeast Mississippi Community College and Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in the Region 23 Tournament held May 2-4 at Traceway Park in Clinton.

In the matchup with Northeast in first-round action, the Lady Tigers jumped out to a 5-2 lead after three innings and held on for a 6-3 decision, despite being out-hit 11-9 by the ECCC squad.

The EC offense was led by Leah Dennis, a product of Neshoba Central High School, who went four-for-four at the plate with four singles.

Sondreia Hillie, also a Neshoba Central product, doubled and singled and collected an RBI. Recording doubles each were Allison Phillips of Leake Academy and Lindsey Stevens of Newton County.

White and Laura Smith, both of Neshoba Central, and Haley Chipley of Carthage had one single apiece. White and Smith also knocked in a run a piece.

Codee Russell of Leake Academy took the loss for EC on the mound. She allowed five earned runs on nine hits through six innings. She fanned two batters.

East Central was eliminated from the double-elimination tournament after falling 2-1 to the Lady Bulldogs during second-day competition.

After taking a 1-0 lead in the second inning, the Lady Diamond Warriors allowed single runs in the third and fifth innings and Gulf Coast held on for the victory.

White homered to lead the EC offense, which managed just four hits. Singles were recorded by Hillie, Phillips and Shenique Brass of Philadelphia.

Amber Smith of Union took the loss for EC on the mound, allowing two earned runs on six hits through five-and two-thirds innings. She fanned two batters and walked one. Smith was relieved by Brass who got the final out.

East Central advanced to post-season play after finishing second in the MACJC Central Division with a 12-4 record.

The Lady Diamond Warriors posted a 2-2 mark in state tournament action held April 25-27 at Clinton High School.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN X

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT X

NEWTON RECORD X

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF March 5 2008

Lady Warriors go two and out at regional

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

These sophomore members of the East Central Community College fastpitch softball team were honored during "Sophomore Recognition Day," held prior to the Lady Warriors' doubleheader sweep of East Mississippi Community College. Lady Diamond Warriors shown with their special guests include (from left) Laura Smith, Whitnee White, and Sondreia Hillie, all of Neshoba Central; Lindsey Stevens of Newton County, and Shenique Brass of Philadelphia. Also pictured is ECCC head coach Scott Hill (far right).

ECCC photo

The East Central Community College Lady Warriors made a quick exit from the Region 23 fastpitch tournament this past weekend at Clinton's Traceway Park.

The Lady Warriors lost 6-3 to Northeast Mississippi Community College on Friday and exited the six-team double-elimination tournament with a 2-1 loss to Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College on Saturday.

ECCC finished 2008 with a 26-18 record.

Northeast	6
East Central	3

Northeast scored twice in both the second and third innings in knocking off the Lady Warriors.

Despite losing, the Lady Warriors outhit Northeast 11-9.

Leah Dennis went 4-for-4 to lead ECCC, 26-17. Allison Phillips, Sondreia Hillie, and Lindsey Stevens each had a double with Hillie also getting a single. Laura Smith had two singles

Northeast, 33-18, got two doubles from Nikki Johnson, one double from Kora Keith, and a triple from Marlana Lentz. Johnson and Lentz both went 3-for-3.

Codee Russell (11-7) took the loss.

Amber Metzger got the win.

Gulf Coast	2
East Central	1

Gulf Coast snapped a 1-1 tie with a run in the bottom of the fifth inning of Saturday's elimation game.

ECCC, 26-18, took a 1-0 lead in the top of the second on a solo homer by Whitnee White only to have the Lady Bulldogs draw even in the bottom of the third.

Amber Smith (11-7) took the loss despite tossing a six-hitter.

Tiffany Brosh doubled for the Lady Bulldogs.

Susanna Teague threw a four-hitter for Gulf Coast to get the win.

CLARION-LEDGER

THE PHILADELPHIAN

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON

WEEK OF May 5, 2008

Greer signs ECCC softball offer

Carthage High School senior Brandy Greer, seated, center, signed a letter of intent to join the East Central Lady Warriors softball team. She is flanked by her parents, Pam and Mike Greer. Also pictured, standing, from left, are ECCC coach Scott Hill and CHS coach Tim Reid.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN X

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

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April 28, 200

ECCC

From Page B1

on eight hits. She fanned three batters and walked six.

In the loss to Co-Lin, the Lady Warriors managed just three hits, a triple by Brass and singles by Hillie and Thrash.

The Lady Wolves scored three runs in the first, one in the fifth and two in the sixth to claim the shut out.

Codee Russell of Leake Academy took the loss for EC on the mound, allowing four runs on four hits through five innings.

EC pounded 12 hits in cruising past Itawamba to begin tournament action.

Whitnee White of Neshoba Central led the offense with a double and three singles. Laura Smith, also a Neshoba Central product, had a double and single, and Hillie belted two singles. Recording doubles each were Brass and Stevens. Singles each were registered by Phillips and Sharp.

White and Smith led in RBIs with two each.

East Central scored single runs in the first and second innings, two runs in both the third and fourth innings and three runs in the third.

Smith went the distance for the EC in the six-inning matchup to earn the win. She allowed just one run on one hit. She fanned two batters and walked two.

Cont'd →

WEEK OF April 28, 2008

SUBMITTED PHOTO

GAME-WINNING HIT

East Central Community College's Whitnee White — a former Neshoba Central standout — delivers a game-winning base hit for the Lady Warriors in recent action against Northeast Mississippi.

ECCC falls, preps for Region 23

from combined reports

East Central Community College's hopes for a state softball title were nixed by the Lady Tigers of Northeast Mississippi, who scored the winning run in the bottom of the seventh to claim a 5-4 decision in the MACJC State Tournament held at Clinton High School.

The Lady Diamond Warriors began the double-elimination event by defeating Itawamba Community College 9-1 Thursday afternoon, then fell 6-0 to Copiah-Lincoln. East Central rallied to defeat host Hinds Community College 6-3 Friday afternoon prior to falling to Northeast in an elimination game.

East Central, which sports a 26-16 overall mark under fifth-year head coach Scott Hill, is among six teams to qualify for the Region 23 Tournament scheduled for Friday through Sunday at Traceway Park in Clinton. The Lady Warriors begin the double-elimination event by taking on Northeast at 2 p.m. Friday.

EC managed just four hits in the loss to Northeast, singles each by Sondreia Hillie of Neshoba Central, Shenique Brass of Philadelphia, Haley Chipley and Allison Phillips of Leake Academy.

East Central scored single runs in the third and sixth innings and two in the seventh. Northeast tallied three runs in the first, one in the third and the game-winner in the seventh.

Erin Breland of Philadelphia took the loss for EC on the mound, allowing five runs on eight hits through 5.2 innings. She walked one batter.

In the win over Hinds, EC erased a 3-1 deficit by scoring five runs in the top of the seventh for the 6-3 victory.

EC hitters were, Brass, triple; and Hillie, Chipley, Phillips, Lindsey Stevens of Newton County, Amy Sharp of Neshoba Central and Emily Thrash, singles each. Brass and Thrash led in RBIs with two each. Hillie also knocked in a run.

Amber Smith of Union went the distance in earning the win for EC on the mound, allowing three runs

See **ECCC**
Page B3

ECCC softball team vying for state title

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team wrapped up another successful regular season with a doubleheader sweep of Northeast Mississippi Community College Monday afternoon on the Decatur campus.

The Lady Diamond Warriors are now focused on the upcoming MACJC State Softball Championship scheduled April 24-26 at the Clinton High School softball field.

The top two teams in the MACJC North, Central and South divisions qualify for the double-elimination event, hosted this year by the Central Division winner, Hinds Community College.

East Central, which finished season action with a 24-14 overall record and placed second in the MACJC Central Division with a 12-4 mark under fifth-year head coach Scott Hill, begins tournament competition against Itawamba Community College at 1 p.m. Thursday.

Also participating are Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College and Northeast.

Competition concludes with the championship game scheduled at 2 p.m. Saturday.

ECCC PHOTO

Whitnee White delivers the game-winning hit in East Central Community College's 3-2 win over Northeast Mississippi Community College in the first game of a non-division doubleheader Monday afternoon in Decatur.

CARTHAGINIAN ____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ____

NEWTON RECORD X

MERIDIAN STAR X

CLARION-LEDGER ____

THE PHILADELPHIAN ____

WEEK OF April 21, 2002

WEEK OF April 21, 2008

Diamond Warriors get split

It was "Sophomore Recognition Day" Saturday for the defending state champion East Central Community College Diamond Warriors who took on Copiah-Lincoln Community College.

East Central won the first game by a 4-2 margin but fell 10-4 in the nightcap.

East Central is in a battle for a playoff spot along with Meridian Community College, which sports a 9-5, and Hinds Community College, whose division marks is the same as EC's at 7-5.

East Central recognized sophomore players prior to the first contest with Co-Lin. Local honorees and their respective hometowns include pitcher Gregory Stovall, Philadelphia; middle infielder Jacob Casey and manager Justin Joyner, both of Union; and pitcher Robert Westbrook, Decatur.

In the win over Co-Lin, EC scored one run in the first inning and three in third. Co-Lin tallied its two runs in the sixth inning.

Jack Edmondson of Louisville belted two singles and Casey and Parkman had doubles each to lead the offense. Singles each were recorded by Jones, ZeErica Hall of Carthage and Clint Coleman of Louisville. Parkman led in RBIs with two. Casey and Jones knocked in a run apiece.

Creighton was the winning pitcher for EC on the mound. He pitched four and two-thirds scoreless innings and allowed just one hit. Creighton fanned eight batters and walked four. In the loss to Co-Lin, EC scored two runs in the first inning and two in the seventh. The visitors tallied three in the third, four in the fourth, one in the fifth and two in the sixth.

The Diamond Warriors managed just six hits- a double and single by Hendrix, two singles by Hall, and singles by Jones and Kylie Ming of Louisville.

Co-Lin pounded 13 hits in notching the win.

Stovall took the loss for EC on the mound, allowing seven runs on seven hits through three and one-third innings. He fanned one and walked six.

Timothy Maloney of Meridian hurled two innings, allowing three runs on four hits. He fanned two batters and walked one. Aleman pitched the final one and two-thirds innings, allowing two hits.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

April 14, 2008

ECCC

From Page C1

and an RBI single by White.

Genny Freeman gave ECCC a 12-3 lead with a sacrifice fly in the fourth.

The Lady Lions came to life in the top of the fifth as they scored seven runs with Jessica Vick's grand slam to left field cutting EMCC's deficit to 12-8. Danielle Dore' added a two-run single and Lacey Mangrum had an RBI single in the inning.

EMCC drew even in the top of the sixth on an RBI single by Summer Frost and a sacrifice fly by Kristie Owens.

Codee Russell got the win as she threw the first four frames, then came back to throw the sixth and seventh innings following EMCC's uprising. Lee took the loss in two innings of relief.

White and Brass both had three hits to lead ECCC. Brass had two singles and a double, while White had two singles to go with her homer. White had four RBIs. Leah Dennis and Amy Sharp both had two singles, while Hillie had three RBIs.

Dore' had three hits for EMCC. Lee, Matthews, Vick, and Ashley Clark each had two hits.

In the nightcap, the Lady Warriors scored three runs in both the second and fifth frames to take a 7-1 lead. In the second inning, two runs scored on wild pitches with Emily Thrash getting a run-scoring infield hit. In the fifth, Allison Phillips had a sacrifice fly and Hillie plated a run on a fielder's choice. In between, Brass had a sacrifice fly.

EMCC got its first run on a bases-loaded walk to losing pitcher Stephanie Pounders in the top of the first inning.

The Lady Lions got their second run in the top of the second inning as Mangrum singled and scored on a double by Jorga Edmonds.

ECCC made it 9-2 with a pair of runs in the bottom of the sixth. Brass and White led off with singles and scored on infield outs by Laura Smith and Chipley.

In the top of the seventh, Lee drove in three runs with a double and scored on a single by Vick.

Chipley had three singles to lead ECCC. Hillie and White both had a pair of singles.

Amber Smith went the distance to get the win.

"We just feel very fortunate to have won these two ball games because East Mississippi really came to play," Hill said.

Dore', Owens, and Sara Havard each had two singles for the Lady Lions.

With EMCC apparently in the market for a coach for 2008, the Lady Lions showed the search may not be that hard.

"I don't know what next season will bring, but they played really hard today," Neely said.

EC ladies hold on to take pair from EMCC

By Marty Stamper
Special to The Star

DECATUR — The East Central Community College Lady Warriors wrapped up a berth in the MACJC state softball tournament with a 13-12, 9-6 sweep of East Mississippi Community College Wednesday.

Neither win came easy as ECCC led 12-3 in the opener only to have the Lady Lions pull even at 12-12. In the nightcap, the Lady Warriors carried a 9-2 lead into the top of the seventh only to have EMCC battle to within 9-6 with runners at second and third before Amber Smith retired the next two batters to clinch the win.

"It's nice to accomplish a goal in making the playoffs," East Central head coach Scott Hill said. "I've got to take my hat off to Scooba. They played hard from the first inning to the seventh inning in both ball games and never gave up.

"They gave us a real test and a scare in the first game. We felt like we had the game well in hand at 12-3 and we don't make a couple plays and that just ignites them and, before you know it, it's 12-10. The next inning they tie it up."

ECCC improved to 11-3 in the MACJC Central Division and 21-13 overall. EMCC fell to 5-9 and 14-20 overall.

"We put a little pressure on them," said Kate Neely, active head coach at East Mississippi for about a week following the removal of Rob Criddle. "We were pretty much out of the running for the playoffs, but we wanted to put a hurting on them.

"Scott's got a good group here and we've got a good one too."

EMCC took a 1-0 lead in the top of the first inning as Brooke Lee doubled and scored on an error.

Sondreia Hillie started a four-run bottom of the first for ECCC with a solo homer to left field. Laura Smith had an RBI single and Haley Chipley singled home a pair of runs to put the Lady Warriors up 4-1.

A sacrifice fly by Hillie and a three-run homer to center field by Whitnee White extended ECCC's lead to 8-1 in the second inning.

Josie Matthews cut the lead to 8-3 with a two-run blast to left field in the top of the third.

The Lady Warriors answered with three runs in the bottom of the third with Hillie getting another sacrifice fly to go with an RBI double by Shenique Brass

See ECCC
Page C3

WEEK OF April 14, 2008
Cont'd →

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____
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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____
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NEWTON RECORD _____
MERIDIAN STAR X
CLARION-LEDGER _____
THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF April 14, 2008

ECCC softball team sweeps Holmes; division race remains tight

A fourth-straight MACJC Central Division title is within reach for the East Central Community College fast-pitch softball team following the Lady Diamond Warriors' doubleheader sweep of division foe Holmes Community College Saturday in Goodman.

East Central edged the Lady Diamond Bulldogs 4-3 in the first contest and held on for a 10-8 decision in the second game, improving to 19-13 overall and 9-3 in league action under fifth-year head coach Scott Hill.

Hinds remains atop the division standings with an 11-3 mark. The Lady Diamond Bulldogs have two games remaining. This year the Central Division winner will serve as host for the MACJC State Tournament scheduled April 25-27.

Codee Russell of Leake Academy got the win on the mound and improved her season mark to 9-4.

In the second contest, the EC offense again got untracked early, scoring seven runs in the second stanza. The Lady Diamond Warriors added single runs in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings.

Leah Dennis of Neshoba Central led the EC offense with two singles, a double and two RBIs.

Amber Smith of Union got the win on the mound and improved to 7-4.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT X

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

4/7

PAULA MERRITT/THE MERIDIAN STAR

STRETCHING OUT

East Central Community College's Shenique Brass dives in the infield to make a stop on the ball against Meridian Community College Wednesday.

Lady Warriors

From Page B1

a couple plays to snuff it out every now and then, but hats off to them for hitting it.

"We showed a little patience in that last inning and I'm proud we hung in there and showed a little character.

"It's nice to be tied with Hinds one time through the division."

MCC indeed came out hot at the plate with Morgan getting three hits and three RBI in her first three at-bats. Natalie Parker also had three hits in the first four innings to drive in a pair of runs. Whitney Drachenberg had a pair of doubles in her first two at-bats as MCC led by as much as 10-4.

Brooklyn Williams finished with two hits, including a double, while Constance Jones had a two-run double and De'Miracle Biggs had two singles for the Lady Eagles.

"As a coaching staff, it's a tough loss, but as a team, when you don't stay focused — and that's what we've been on this group about all year — ve're not paying attention," MCC coach Robert Eakins said. "It was a tough loss because we had one that we could have sneaked out on the road, but we've been on them all year about being disciplined and staying focused and that's something they don't do.

"I'll take the blame for that, that's just today's society, they just don't focus enough.

"I have to give credit to East Central too. They will not give up. That's been a trademark of his teams."

In the second game, the Lady Warriors jumped out to a 4-0 lead in the first inning with Brass getting an RBI double and Chipley adding an RBI single.

MCC also committed three errors in the frame.

A pair of baserunning blunders cost the Lady Eagles their first two outs on one play in the top of the first inning.

MCC closed to within 5-3 with three runs in the top of the third. Chassidy Roberts ripped an RBI triple to left field and Drachenberg plated a pair of runs with a bases-loaded single. ECCC extended its lead to 7-3 with single runs in the third and fourth frames, then completed the run-rule win with four runs in the bottom of the fifth.

A two-run double by Laura Smith ended the game as ECCC improved to 16-12 overall.

ECCC had only eight hits with White, Smith, and Chipley each getting two.

White drove in three runs.

"We looked like we were being patient and waiting for our pitch," Hill said of the second game win.

"We weren't overly aggressive, but we were aggressive. We ran the bases real well and made some big defense plays. Our center fielder (Hillie) made some good plays in the first game that I think may have kept them from running in the second game.

"We played pretty well all the way around in the second game."

Amber Smith (6-3) got the win.

MCC, 10-22, had eight hits with Biggs going 3-for-3. Roberts and Drachenberg were both 2-for-3.

Hunter took the loss.

4/7
Cont'd →

Lady Warriors hold serve with sweep

By Marty Stamper
special to The Star

DECATUR — Both East Central Community College and Meridian Community College entered Wednesday afternoon's doubleheader chasing Hinds Community College in the MACJC Central Division fastpitch standings.

It would be the host Lady Warriors that pulled even with Hinds with an 11-10, 11-3 sweep of MCC.

Both three-time defending Central Division champion ECCC and Hinds are 6-2 in the league. MCC fell to 4-4. East Mississippi Community College entered the day at 2-4, while Holmes Community College was 0-6.

Meridian appeared to be in control of the opener as the Lady Eagles hammered 14 hits and took a 10-5 lead over the first four innings.

MCC managed just one more hit over the final three frames, but still carried a 10-6 lead into the bottom of the seventh after ECCC left the bases loaded in the sixth.

The seventh inning would be a nightmare for MCC. Sondreia Hillie led off with a triple to right field and scored when Shenique Brass homered to center field to trim MCC's lead to 10-8.

The comeback continued when MCC starting pitcher Gabby Morgan was relieved following a walk to Whitnee White. Reliever Shanese Hunter walked the first two batters she faced to load the bases with no outs.

Lindsey Stevens made it 10-9 with a sacrifice fly and Kristen Pillsbury reloaded the bases when she beat out an infield hit when no one covered first base.

A walk to Amy Sharp tied the game and Hailey Chipley scored the winning run on a fly ball to shallow center field by Emily Thrash.

The Lady Warriors played long ball in the win as White had a three-run homer in the third inning and Stevens hit a solo shot in the fourth. Hillie went 3-for-4 with a triple and scored three runs. Brass also had a double and had three RBI.

Erin Breland (3-3) got the win with four innings of relief of ECCC starter Codee Russell.

"We were kind of shellshocked because Meridian came out hitting gappers," ECCC coach Scott Hill said. "They were hitting the ball hard. It didn't matter what we threw up there, they tattooed it to right-center or left-center.

"We probably could have made

See **East Central**
Page C3

PAULA MERRITT/THE MERIDIAN STAR

BACKHAND

East Central Community College's Kristen Pillsbury slides in to back hand the ball in left field against Meridian Community College Wednesday.

WEEK OF 4/7

cont'd →

SPORTS

www.meridianstar.com

Juco Softball: East Central at Meridian

PAULA MERRITT/THE MERIDIAN STAR

SLIDING INTO SECOND

East Central Community College's Shenique Brass puts the tag on Meridian Community College's Natalie Parker at second base as she tries to leg out a double during Wednesday's action.

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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MERIDIAN STAR ✓

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 4/7

ECCC softball splits twinbill with Hinds

from staff reports

East Central and Hinds Community College locked horns in a Central Division doubleheader Sunday which left both teams in a deadlock for first place in the league standings.

East Central won the opener 10-3 but dropped a 7-6 decision in the nightcap in a makeup twinbill of Saturday's scheduled matchup. The Lady Warriors are now 17-13 overall and 7-3 in division play and are scheduled to go to Northeast Mississippi Thursday.

In Game 1 Sunday, East Central scored three times in the top of the first and never trailed.

Whitnee White had two singles, a double and two RBIs, Lindsey Stevens had two singles and a double. Amy Sharp had three singles and Laura Smith had two hits and three RBIs to lead the way. Sondreia Hillie added a two-run single and Shenique Brass had an RBI single.

Codee Russell (8-4) tossed a complete game to get the win.

In the second game, East Central fell despite out-hitting Hinds 11-6. The Lady Warriors committed three errors — and three of the seven runs surrendered by pitcher Amber Smith (6-4) in her complete-game effort were unearned.

Offensively, the Lady Warriors got two hits and three RBIs from Allison Phillips and two doubles from Brass.

White had two hits and one RBI and Hillie also had two hits.

— Rocky Higginbotham

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 4/7

EC photo

Area athletes in action at ECCC

These Neshoba County athletes are members of the 2008 fast-pitch softball team at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (kneeling, from left) infielder Shenique Brass of Philadelphia and catcher Leah Dennis and outfielder Sondreia Hillie, both products of Neshoba Central; and (standing, from left) outfielder/infielder Whitnee White, infielder Laura Smith and pitcher Amy Sharp, all of Neshoba Central; and pitcher/outfielder Erin Breland of Philadelphia. Scott Hill serves as head coach.

ECCC Lady Diamond Warriors remain tied for division lead

A split with division co-leader Hinds Community College followed by a sweep of Meridian Community College has put the East Central Community College fast-pitch softball team in the hunt for a fourth-straight MACJC Central Division title.

Against division foe Hinds on Sunday, East Central scored three runs in the first inning and four in the seventh in claiming a 10-3 decision in the opener, but a late rally fell short in a 7-6 loss in the second contest.

The Lady Diamond Warriors, who improved to 17-13 overall and 7-3 in league play, were led offensively in the first game by Whitnee White of Neshoba Central and Lindsey Stevens of Newton County who belted three hits each. Laura Smith of Neshoba Central collected two hits and led the team in RBIs with three.

Codee Russell of Leake Academy got the win for EC, as she went the distance and allowed three earned runs on three hits.

In the second contest, EC rallied from a 7-2, fifth-inning deficit by scoring four runs in the sixth but the Lady Diamond Warriors went scoreless in the seventh and Hinds held on for the one-run victory.

Amber Smith of Union took the loss for EC on the mound.

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Apr. 14, 2008

Sweep...

Continued from 3B...

A pair of baserunning blunders cost the Lady Eagles their first two outs on one play in the top of the first inning.

MCC closed to within 5-3 with three runs in the top of the third. Chassidy Roberts ripped an RBI triple to left field and Drachenberg plated a pair of runs with a bases-loaded single.

EC extended its lead to 7-3 with single runs in the third and fourth frames, then completed the run-rule win with four runs in the bottom of the fifth. A two-run double by Laura Smith ended the game as EC improved to 16-12 overall.

EC had only eight hits with White, Smith, and Chipley each getting two. White drove in three runs.

"We looked like we were being patient and waiting for our pitch," Hill said of the second game win. "We weren't overly aggressive, but we were aggressive. We ran the bases real well and made some big defense plays. Our center fielder (Hillie) made some good plays in the first game that I think may have kept them from running in the second game.

"We played pretty well all the way around in the second game."

Amber Smith (6-3) got the win.

MCC, 10-22, had eight hits with Biggs going 3-for-3. Roberts and Drachenberg were both 2-for-3.

Hunter took the loss for MCC.

Apr. 14 2008
cont. 1 →

Lady Warriors rally past MCC

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

Both East Central Community College and Meridian Community College entered last Wednesday's doubleheader chasing Hinds Community College in the MACJC Central Division fastpitch standings.

It would be the host Lady Warriors that pulled evened with Hinds with an 11-10, 11-3 sweep of MCC in Decatur.

Both three-time defending Central Division champion EC and Hinds went to 6-2 in the league.

In took a late-inning comeback for the Lady Warriors to come away with a win in the opener.

Meridian appeared to be in control as the Lady Eagles hammered 14 hits and took a 10-5 lead over the first four innings.

MCC managed just one more hit over the final three frames, but still carried a 10-6 lead into the bottom of the seventh after EC left the bases loaded in the sixth.

The seventh inning would be a nightmare for MCC. EC's Sondreia Hillie led off with a triple to right field and scored when Shenique Brass homered to center field to trim MCC's lead to 10-8.

The comeback continued when MCC starting pitcher Gabby Morgan was relieved following a walk to Whitnee White. Reliever Shanese Hunter walked the first two batters she faced to load the bases with no outs.

Lindsey Stevens made it 10-9 with a sacrifice fly and Kristen Pillsbury reloaded the bases when she beat out an infield hit when no one covered first base for the Lady Eagles.

A walk to Amy Sharp tied the game and Hailey Chipley scored the winning run on a fly ball to shallow center field by Emily Thrash.

The Lady Warriors played long ball in the win as White had a three-run homer in the third inning and Stevens hit a solo shot in the fourth. Hillie went 3-for-4 with a triple and scored three runs. Brass also had a double and had three RBI.

Erin Breland (3-3) got the win with four innings of relief of EC starter Codee Russell.

"We were kind of shellshocked because Meridian came out hitting gappers," EC coach Scott Hill said. "They were hitting the ball hard. It didn't matter what we threw up there, they tatted it to right-center or left-center.

"We probably could have made a couple plays to snuff it out every now and then, but hats off to them for hitting it.

"We showed a little patience in that last inning and I'm proud we hung in there and showed a little character.

"It's nice to be tied with Hinds one time through the division."

MCC indeed came out hot at the plate with Morgan getting three hits and three RBI in her first three at-bats. Natalie Parker also had three hits in the first four innings to drive in a pair of runs. Whitney Drachenberg had a pair of doubles in her first two at-bats as MCC led by as much as 10-4.

Brooklyn Williams finished with two hits, including a double, while Constance Jones had a two-run double and De'Miracle Biggs had two singles for the Lady Eagles.

In the second game, the Lady Warriors jumped out to a 4-0 lead in the first inning with Brass getting an RBI double and Chipley adding an RBI single. MCC also committed three errors in the frame.

Continued on 4B...
See Sweep...

WEEK OF April 4, 2008

East Central Community College sophomore third baseman Lindsey Stevens (center) of Decatur is all smiles after hitting a home run in the Lady Warriors' 11-10, 11-3 MACJC Central Division sweep of Meridian Community College last week in Decatur.

Photo by Marty Stamper

Cont'd →

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

April 4, 2008

ECCC

From Page 1B

White, Sondreia Hillie of Neshoba Central, Shenique Brass of Philadelphia and Allison Phillips of Leake Academy had two hits each to lead the EC offense, which out-hit Hinds by an 11-6 margin. Phillips was also the team top RBI producer as she knocked in three runs.

Amber Smith of Union took the loss for EC on the mound, allowing four earned runs on six hits. She walked four batters.

ECCC-Meridian

The Lady Diamond Warriors took a pair of contests from division foe Meridian Community on April 2 by rallying for an 11-10 nail-bitter in the first contest followed by an 11-3 blowout.

In the first game, EC scored five runs in the bottom of the seventh to capture the victory, erasing a 10-6 deficit.

White, Stevens and Brass each homered for EC and Hillie had a triple and two singles. Brass and White led in RBIs with three each.

Erin Breland of Philadelphia was credited with the win on the mound, as she pitched four scoreless innings in relief. She allowed just two hits. Russell was the starter and allowed eight earned runs on 14 hits.

In the second game, EC tallied four runs in the first inning and four in the fifth in posting the win.

White, Laura Smith and Haley Chipley of Carthage had two hits each to the lead the offense. White was also the top RBI producer with four.

Amber Smith was the winning pitcher, allowing three earned runs on seven hits through the five-inning contest. She fanned one batter and walked two.

Next up for EC is a non-division match-up with Northeast Mississippi Community College Thursday in Booneville. The Lady Diamond Warriors travel to division foe Holmes Community College on Saturday. Doubleheader action gets underway at noon on the Goodman campus.

WEEK OF April 4, 2008
cont'd →

EC Lady Warriors remain tied for lead in division

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Sophomore slugger Whitnee White of the East Central Community College Lady Diamond Warriors ripped this pitch for a hit in the opener against visiting Holmes Community College March 26. White is a product of Neshoba Central High School.

A split with division co-leader Hinds Community College followed by a sweep of Meridian Community College has put the East Central Community College fastpitch softball team in the hunt for a fourth-straight MACJC Central Division title.

Against division foe Hinds on Sunday, East Central scored three runs in the first inning and four in the seventh in claiming a 10-3 decision in the opener, but a late rally fell short in a 7-6 loss in the second contest.

The Lady Diamond Warriors, who improved to 17-13 overall and 7-3 in league play, were led offensively in the first game by Whitnee White of Neshoba Central and Lindsey Stevens of Newton County who belted three hits each. Laura Smith of Neshoba Central collected two hits and led the team in RBIs with three.

Codee Russell of Leake Academy got the win for EC, as she went the distance and allowed three earned runs on three hits. She fanned one batter and walked two.

In the second contest, EC rallied from a 7-2, fifth-inning deficit by scoring four runs in the sixth but the Lady Diamond Warriors went scoreless in the seventh and Hinds held on for the one-run victory.

See **ECCC**, Page 2B

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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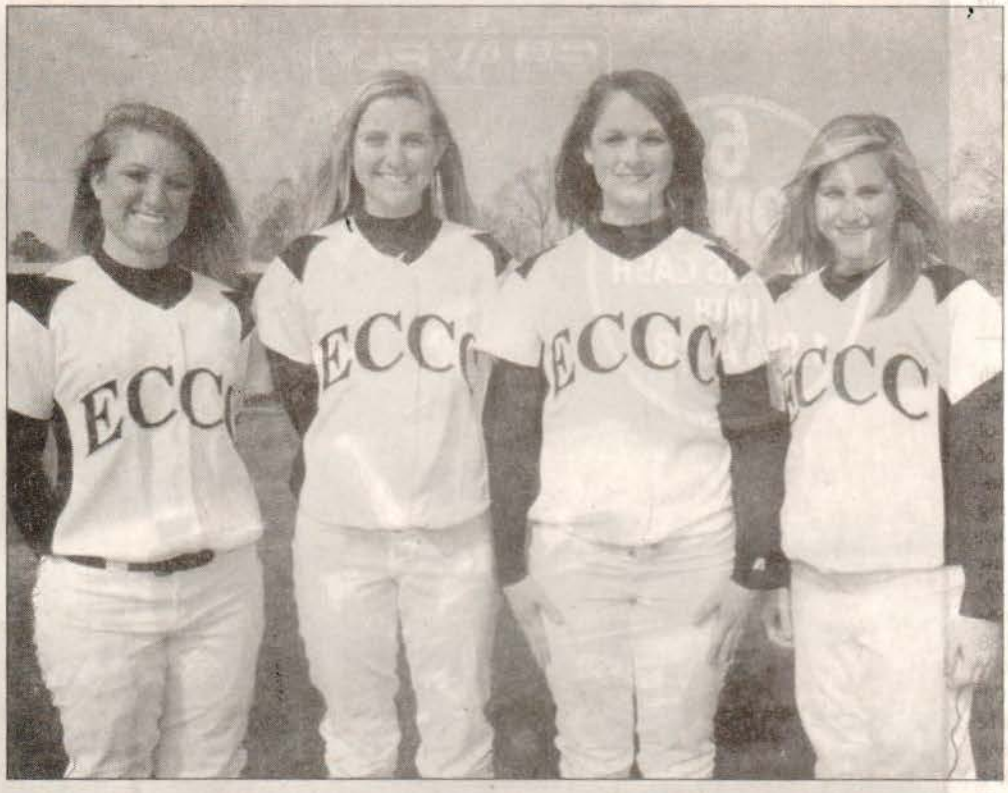
MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

3/31



These Newton County athletes are members of the 2008 fast-pitch softball team at East Central Community College in Decatur. From left are infielders Lindsey Stevens and Megan Munn and outfielder Kristen Pillsbury, all products of Newton County High School; and pitcher/infielder Amber Smith of Union. Scott Hill serves as head coach.

EC photo

3/31 Cont'd →

She got plenty of offensive support in the early innings as EC scored four runs in both the first and second frames.

Sondreia Hillie and Shenique Brass had three hits apiece to lead EC's 11-hit attack. Hailey Chipley and Amy Sharp had two hits apiece.

Amber Smith (4-2) of Union tossed a four-hit shutout in the five inning second game to complete the sweep.

The Lady Warriors again used the big inning to take the win. EC scored five runs in both the second and fifth frames.

Emily Thrash had three hits, while Brass and Whitnee White both had a single and a double.

East Central 12-6
Holmes 4-1

The Lady Warriors swept Holmes in Decatur on March 25 to improve to 2-0 in the Central Division and 13-11 overall.

In the opener, Shenique Brass led the EC offense with a home run and a pair of singles. She scored three runs and drove in two more.

Sondreia Hillie, Whitnee White, Laura Smith, Hailey Chipley, and Lindsey Stevens each had a pair singles. Emily Thrash added a triple.

EC scored three runs in the third inning and added four more in both the fifth and sixth frames to pull away from former Union coach Ricky Casey's squad.

Codee Russell was the winning pitcher, allowing four earned runs on 11 hits. She fanned two batters.

In the nightcap, Hillie led EC's offense with with a home run, a double, and a single. She also scored twice and had four RBI.

Chipley, Stevens, and Kristen Pillsbury had two singles apiece.

A four-run second frame enabled the Lady Warriors to take control.

Amber Smith got the win, allowing one run on five hits through seven innings.

East Central 9-8
East Mississippi 3-13

In the opener, Hailey Chipley had three singles and drove in three runs to lead EC.

Emily Thrash, Sondreia Hillie, and Whitnee White each had singles with Laura Smith mashing a home run. White and Smith had two RBI each.

The Lady Warriors scored three runs in the first inning and added four more in the fifth to pull away.

Codee Russell got the win, allowing three earned runs on 10 hits through seven innings. She fanned four batters and walked one.

Smith had a pair of singles, Amy Sharp had a triple, Shenique Brass had a double, and Hillie, White, Chipley, Lindsey Stevens, and Kristen Pillsbury each had a single.

The Lady Lions broke the game open with a six-run fifth frame.

Amber Smith took the loss, allowing seven earned runs on eight hits through 3 2/3 innings.

Erin Breland hurled one inning of middle relief, allowing six earned runs on six hits.

With the split, EC's record went to 14-12 overall and 3-1 in the MACJC Central Division.

WEEK OF 3/31

cont'd →

The Union Appeal • Union, Mississ

Lady Warriors win five of six

By Marty Stamper
Appeal Sports Editor

The Lady Warriors of East Central Community College improved to 14-12 on the year by winning five of their six fastpitch games last week.

EC is scheduled to host Meridian Community College today at 3 p.m. in a key MACJC Central Division doubleheader.

Through Monday, Hinds led the division at 6-2, followed by EC and Meridian at 4-2, East Mississippi at 2-4, and Holmes at 0-6.

Tuesday's doubleheader with Pearl River was rained out. The Lady Warriors go to Hinds on Saturday.

East Central 10-10
Mississippi Delta 2-0

The Lady Warriors improved to 11-11 with the March 24 non-division sweep at Moorhead.

In the opener, Erin Breland (2-3) threw a two-hitter to get the win.

ECCC outfielder Whitnee White takes a cut in the Lady Warriors' sweep of Holmes.

EC photo

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 3/31

ppeal • Union, Mississippi • Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Union senior catcher Paige Holsen, seated third from left, signed a fastpitch scholarship with East Central Community College last week. With Holsen are (front row, from left) stepfather Tim Gibbs, mother Cassandra Gibbs, and father Daryle Holsen, and (standing) Union High School principal Joey Ezelle, Union head coach Todd Viverette, ECCC head coach Scott Hill, and ECCC assistant coach Tiffany Thomas.

Photo by Marty Stamper

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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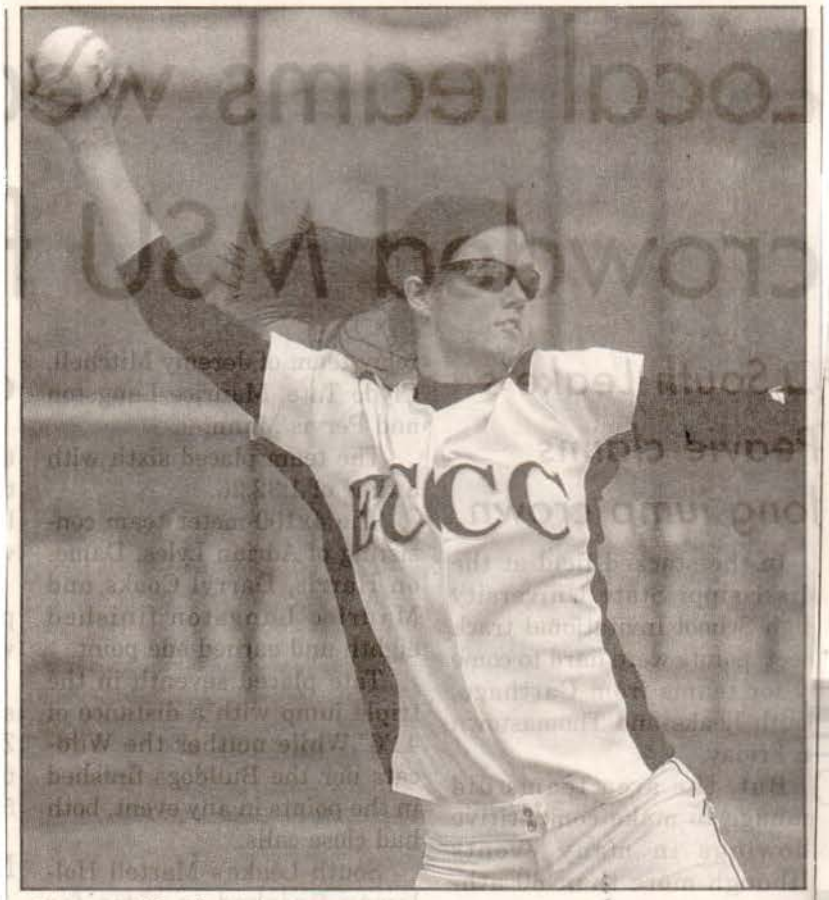
CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

an, Carthage, Miss., April 3, 2008



Russell deals

East Central pitcher Codee Russell winds up for a pitch during the Lady Warriors' recent victory over Holmes Community College. Russell, a freshman, is an alumnus of Leake Academy. *(ECCC photo)*

Area alums figure large in ECCC wins

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team split a doubleheader with East Mississippi Community College Saturday afternoon, winning the first contest 9-3 and falling 13-8 in the second game.

With the split, EC's record stands at 14-12 overall. The Lady Diamond Warriors sport a 3-1 mark in the MACJC Central Division, thanks to their sweep of division foe Holmes Community College March 25 in Decatur.

In the win over the Lady Lions, Hailey Chipley of Carthage led the offense with three singles and three RBIs. Also having a productive outing at the plate was Emily Thrash of Sebastopol.

EC scored three runs in the first inning, four in the fifth, and single runs in the sixth and seventh innings.

Codee Russell of Leake Academy got the win for EC on the mound, allowing three earned runs on 10 hits through seven innings. She fanned four batters and walked one.

In the second contest, EC scored three runs in the first, one in the second, and two runs in both the fifth and sixt

The Lady Lions scored tw runs in the second inning, on in the third, four in the fourt and six in the fifth.

Amber Smith of Union too the loss for EC on the mounc allowing seven earned runs o eight hits. Russell pitched th final one and one-third innings and allowed two hits.

The Lady Diamond War riors took a pair of divisio matchups from Holmes Com munity College on March 25 cruising 12-4 in the first gam and 6-1 in the second contest t complete the sweep.

In the first game, Brass led the offense with a home run and two singles. She also scored three times and was also credited with two RBIs.

Chipley had a pair of singles and Thrash checked in with a triple.

EC scored three runs in the third inning, one in the third and four in both the fifth and sixth innings. Holmes scored one run in the second and three in third.

Russell was the winning pitcher, allowing four earned runs on 11 hits. She fanned two batters.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN √

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN X

WEEK OF 3/31

Lady Diamond Warriors split with EMCC, sweep HCC

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team split a doubleheader with East Mississippi Community College Saturday afternoon, winning the first contest 9-3 and falling 13-8 in the second game.

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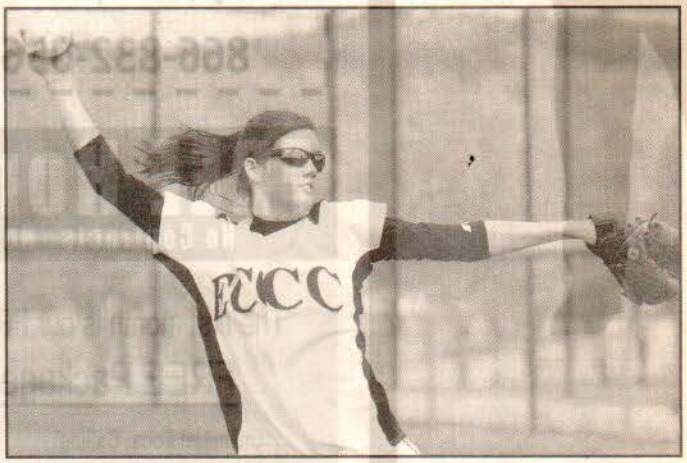
Codee Russell of Leake Academy got the win for EC on the mound, allowing three earned runs on 10 hits through seven innings. She fanned four batters and walked one.

In the second contest, EC sluggers were Laura Smith, two singles; Amy Sharp of Neshoba Central, triple; Brass, double; and Hillie, White, Chipley, and Lindsey Stevens and Kristen Pillsbury, both of Newton County, singles each.

Amber Smith of Union took the loss for EC on the mound, allowing seven earned runs on eight hits through three and two-thirds innings. Erin Breland of Philadelphia hurled one inning of middle relief. Russell pitched the final one and one-thirds innings.

ECCC sweeps Holmes

The Lady Diamond Warriors took a pair of division matchups from Holmes Community College, cruising 12-4 in the first game and 6-1 in the second contest to complete the sweep.



Freshman pitcher Codee Russell is shown in action for the ECCC fast-pitch softball team as she shuts down the HCC offense during a 12-4 victory. Russell is a former standout at Leake Academy. EC photo

In the first game, Brass led the offense with a home run and two singles. She also scored three times and was also credited with two RBIs.

Russell was the winning pitcher, allowing four earned runs on 11 hits. She fanned two batters.

In the second contest, Hillie led EC at the plate with a home run, double and single. She also scored twice and was credited with four RBIs.

Amber Smith got the win for EC on the mound, allowing one run on five hits through seven innings.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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NEWTON RECORD X

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF March 24

Lady Warriors two and out in Kansas

A championship season has come to an end for the East Central Community College Lady Warriors who were outscored 89-75 by Shelton State Community College in an elimination game Thursday afternoon in the NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball National Championship held at the Bicentennial Center in Salina, Kansas.

No. 13 seed East Central, which advanced to the national competition as the Region 23 champion, fell victim to a barrage of three-pointers by the twelfth-seeded Lady Buccaneers, who made 13 of 26 shots from beyond the arc.

The Lady Warriors, who finished 22-8 under third-year head coach Bill Smith, were led by Rashima Jenkins who pumped in 21 points. Jenkins is a product of Airline High School in Bossier City, La. Also scoring for EC were Mystee Dale of Choctaw Central, 19; Tawayatha Evans of Newton, 15; Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine, 14; and Allison Phillips of Leake Academy, six.

EC was five of nine (55.6 percent) from three-point range. Brown made four of eight attempts and Dale was successful on her only attempt.

Lauren Tucker had 18 points to lead Shelton State, of Tuscaloosa, Ala., which improved to 29-5. The Lady Buccaneers advance to semi-final action of the Consolation Bracket on Friday.

The Lady Warriors trailed 42-36 at the break.

East Central began competition in the double-elimination tournament by falling 74-48 Wednesday to No. 4 seed Southeastern Illinois Community College, located in Harrisburg.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF March 24

EC Splits With Hinds CC In Fast-pitch Softball

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—League play got underway last Tuesday for the East Central Community College and Hinds Community College fast-pitch softball teams, with each team claiming one-run victories.

The Lady Diamond Warriors held on for a 7-6 decision in the first game and were nipped 5-4 in the second contest.

With the split, East Central's record stood at 8-10 overall and 1-1 in the MACJC Central Division. Hinds' record was 13-14 and 1-1 following the doubleheader.

Leah Dennis led the EC offense in the first game with a home run and single. Also registering two hits were ***Emily Thrash of Sebastopol***, Whitnee White and Laura Smith who had two singles each. Singles each were registered by Shenique Brass and Lindsey Stevens.

White and Dennis were RBI leaders with three and two, respectively. Kristen Pillsbury was also credited with an RBI.

EC scored three runs in the first inning, one in the second and third stanzas and two runs in the fifth.

Hinds tallied single runs in the first, third, sixth and seventh innings, and scored twice in the fifth.

Codee Russell went the distance for EC in picking up the win. She allowed six earned runs on six hits and fanned one batter.

In the second contest, Laura Smith led the offense with a three-run home run, which came in the third inning and tied the contest at 4-4. Other EC hitters were Brass and Sondreia Hillie and Amy Sharp, singles each. Brass also collected an RBI.

Hinds scored the go-ahead run in the fourth inning.

Amber Smith took the loss for EC, allowing five earned runs on 10 hits through seven innings. She fanned one batter and walked two.

The Lady Diamond Warriors host non-division foe Copiah-Lincoln on Thursday in doubleheader action getting underway at 1 p.m. EC travels to Mississippi Delta in Moorhead on Monday.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF March 24

ECCC Lady Diamond Warriors Sweep Delta

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team evened its season record to 11-11 following a doubleheader sweep of Mississippi Delta Community College Monday afternoon in Moorhead.

In the first contest, the Lady Diamond Warriors scored four runs in both the first and second innings and added two runs in the fifth for the easy 10-2 victory.

Sondreia Hillie of Neshoba Central and Shenique Brass of Philadelphia had three hits each to lead the EC offense. Hailey Chipley of Carthage and Amy Sharp of Neshoba Central added two hits apiece.

Erin Breland (2-3) of Philadelphia hurled a two-hitter to get the win on the mound.

In the second contest, the EC offense continued to be effective in cruising to a 10-0 shutout.

Emily Thrash of Sebastopol had three hits while Brass and Whitnee White, a Neshoba Central product, both had a double and single.

East Central scored five runs in both the second and fifth frames in posting the win.

Amber Smith (4-2) of Union tossed a four-hitter to notch the victory.

The Lady Diamond Warriors travel today to Southwest Mississippi Community College for a doubleheader starting at 1 p.m. on the Summit campus. EC hosts division opponent Holmes Community College on Wednesday, March 26 in doubleheader action getting underway at 3 p.m. in Decatur.

APPEARED IN:

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF March 24

EC's title bid ends in Kansas

A championship season has come to an end for the East Central Community College Lady Warriors who were outscored 89-75 by Shelton State Community College in an elimination game Thursday afternoon in the NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball National Championship held at the Bicentennial Center in Salina, Kansas.

Seeded 13th, East Central advanced to the national competition as the Region 23 champion, but fell victim to a barrage of three-pointers by the twelfth-seeded Lady Buccaneers, who made 13 of 26 shots from beyond the arc.

The Lady Warriors, who finished 22-8 under third-year head coach Bill Smith, were led by Rashima Jenkins who pumped in 21 points. Jenkins is a product of Airline High School in Bossier City, La. Also scoring for EC were Mystee Dale of Choctaw Central, 19; Tawayatha Evans of Newton, 15; Tanesha Brown of Jackson Provine, 14; and Allison Phillips of Leake Academy, six.

EC was five of nine (55.6 percent) from three-point range. Brown made four of eight attempts and Dale was successful on her only attempt.

Lauren Tucker had 18 points to lead Shelton State, of Tuscaloosa, Ala., which improved to 29-5. The Lady Buccaneers advance to semi-final action of the Consolation Bracket on Friday.

➤ See EC on 10A

➤ EC

from 7A

The Lady Warriors trailed 42-36 at the break.

East Central began competition in the double-elimination tournament by falling 74-48 Wednesday to No. 4 seed Southeastern Illinois Community College, located in Harrisburg.

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THE PHILADELPHIAN

rch 24

Getting around

East Central's Emily Thrash, a Sebastopol alumnus, is greeted by Lady Warriors coach Scott Hill as she rounds third base during recent softball action. *ECCC photo*

ECCC chalks up sweep of Delta CC

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team evened its season record to 11-11 following a doubleheader sweep of Mississippi Delta Community College Monday afternoon in Moorhead.

In the first contest, the Lady Diamond Warriors scored four runs in both the first and second innings and added two runs in the fifth for the easy 10-2 victory.

Sondreia Hillie of Neshoba Central and Shenique Brass of Philadelphia had three hits each to lead the EC offense. Hailey Chipley of Carthage and Amy Sharp of Neshoba Central added two hits apiece.

Erin Breland (2-3) of Philadelphia hurled a two-hitter to get the win on the mound.

In the second contest, the EC offense continued to be effective in cruising to a 10-0 shutout.

Emily Thrash of Sebastopol had three hits while Brass and Whitnee White, a Neshoba Central product, both had a double and single.

East Central scored five runs in both the second and fifth frames in posting the win.

Amber Smith (4-2) of Union tossed a four-hitter to notch the victory.

The Lady Diamond Warriors travel today to Southwest Mississippi Community College for a doubleheader starting at 1 p.m. on the Summit campus. EC hosts division opponent Holmes Community College on Wednesday, March 26 in doubleheader action getting underway at 3 p.m.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF March 24

PHOTO BY MARTY STAMPER / SPECIAL TO THE STAR

COCHRAN SIGNS WITH EC

Newton County senior first baseman Brittney Cochran, seated middle, recently signed a fast-pitch scholarship with East Central Community College. With Cochran are (seated from left) her parents, Lanea and Neil Cochran, and (standing) ECCC coach Scott Hill and Newton County coach Justin Chaney.

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF March 24

THE MERIDIAN STAR
Thursday, March 27, 2008

ECCC softball sweeps pair; Prep hands Lamar first loss

from staff reports

Sondreia Hillie hit a grand slam home run in the second inning to spark East Central Community College to a 6-1 win over Holmes in the second game of an MACJC Central Division doubleheader Wednesday afternoon in Decatur.

Hillie's slam also helped the Lady Warriors sweep Holmes after EC won the opener, 12-4.

East Central, now 13-11 overall and 3-1 in division play, will return to league action Saturday at East Mississippi. First pitch is slated for 11 a.m. in Scooba.

In the 6-1 win Wednesday, Hillie finished 3-for-3 with the grand slam and a double while Haley Chipley, Lindsey Stevens and Kristen Pillsbury each had two hits.

Amber Smith (5-2) tossed a complete game to get the win on the mound, scattering five hits and walking none.

In the first game, East Central scored four times in the bottom of the fifth to snap a 4-4 tie — then the Lady Warriors scored four more times in the sixth to bust the game wide open.

Codee Russell (6-4) got the win on the hill, walking none, striking out two and working her way around 11 Holmes hits.

ECCC backed her with 15 base hits, including a homer, triple, single and two RBIs from Shenique Brass.

Whitnee White had two doubles and two RBIs; Hillie had two hits and one RBI; Laura Smith had two hits and two RBIs; Chipley had two hits and one RBI; Stevens had two singles and two RBIs; and Pillsbury had one hit and one RBI.

— Rocky Higginbotham

PREP GOLF

Lamar School second in MRA Invitational

Lamar School turned a solid performance with a team score of 307, but it wasn't enough to win the Madison-Ridgeland Academy Invitational Wednesday.

The eight-school event was held at Deerfield in Madison. Presbyterian Christian was first with a team score of 302, while Lamar was five shots back in second.

Chad Bounds and Elliott Tramontana each shot 76s to lead Lamar, while Allen Massingill fired a 77 and Easton Key a 78.

Lamar is back in action Monday, as the Raiders go to the PCS Invitational to be held at Canebrake in Hattiesburg.

— Rocky Higginbotham

PREP BASEBALL

Jackson Prep	**10**
Lamar School	**1**

The Raiders suffered their first loss of the year, falling to 8-1 after Prep jumped out to a 6-1 lead in the first inning.

AREA ROUNDUP

Bryce Branning had a double for Lamar, which was out-hit 11-5 and scored its only run in the first inning. The Raiders also committed four errors.

Drake Nosco, who singled, scored Lamar's run on an RBI groundout by Andrew Watkins.

Witt Haggard (3-1) started and took the loss for Lamar, surrendering seven earned runs

Branning and Nosco finished; while Kurt Snieder was the winner for Prep.

Lamar is back in action tonight, hosting Jackson Prep in a varsity doubleheader beginning at 4:30.

— Rocky Higginbotham

LATE PREP BASEBALL

Hattiesburg	**8**
Meridian	**5**

The Wildcats dropped a division contest at Hattiesburg late Tuesday night, falling to 9-8 on the season.

Meridian managed just as many hits (seven) as the host Tigers, getting a single and triple from Cody Pearson and two singles and two RBIs from Jacoby Robinson. Dallas Hannah also had a triple.

Hannah was the losing pitcher.

The Wildcats will be back in action Friday, hosting Hattiesburg in a rematch at Q.V. Sykes Park at 7 p.m.

— Rocky Higginbotham

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____
UNION APPEAL _____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON _____
NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
NEWTON RECORD _____
MERIDIAN STAR ✓
CLARION-LEDGER _____
THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 3-2-08

Lady Warriors rally to sweep Miss. Delta

Leah Dennis' two-run single in the bottom of the seventh lifted East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team to an 11-10 win over visiting Mississippi Delta Community College Thursday afternoon, completing a sweep of the Lady Trojans. East Central easily won the first game by a 10-1 margin.

The Lady Diamond Warriors, who evened their record to 5-5 on the young season, rallied from a 10-1, fourth-inning deficit to notch the victory.

East Central used a six-run sixth inning to close within 10-9 of the Lady Trojans, who scored four runs in the third and six in the fourth and seemed in control with a 10-1 advantage. The Lady Diamond Warriors also scored one run in the first inning and two in the fourth.

Whitnee White of Neshoba Central homered and doubled for EC and had three RBIs. She also scored two runs. Other sluggers included Shenique Brass of Philadelphia and Dennis, a Neshoba Central product, who each doubled and singled; and Emily Thrash of Sebastopol, Kristen Pillsbury of Newton County and Amy Sharp of Neshoba Central, singles each. Brass also collected three RBIs and Dennis knocked in two runs.

Codee Russell of Leake Academy was the winning pitcher for EC. She allowed one earned run on four hits through three- and one-third innings. She fanned two batters and walked two. Amber Smith of Union was the starter and allowed eight earned runs on six hits. She fanned four batters and walked five.

In the first game, EC jumped out to a 5-0 first-inning lead and added two runs in the second and three in the fourth for the win.

Brass homered and singled to lead the EC offense. She also collected two RBIs and scored once. Sondreia Hillie of Neshoba Central belted a double and single and Haley Chipley of Carthage had two singles. Shana Easley of Florence, Dennis, White and Laura Smith of Neshoba Central had singles each. Smith led the team in RBIs with three.

Erin Breland of Philadelphia got the win for EC on the mound, allowing one run on just three hits through five- and one- third innings. She fanned two batters and walked one.

ECCC falls twice to Co-Lin

The Lady Diamond Warriors dropped a doubleheader to Copiah-Lincoln Community College on Feb. 27 in Wesson, falling 4-3 in the opener and 6-0 in the nightcap.

In the first contest, EC rallied from a 4-1 deficit by scoring two runs in the sixth to cut the lead to 4-3 but Co-Lin held on for the win. East Central scored its other run in the fifth inning.

Hillie and Bass had two singles each to lead the EC offense. Singles each were recorded by Emily Thrash, Laura Smith and Lindsey Stevens of Newton County.

Russell took the loss, allowing four earned runs on 10 hits through six innings.

EC managed just three hits – a double by Pillsbury and singles each from Thrash and Hillie. Dennis was the losing pitcher, as she allowed four earned runs on eight hits. She fanned one batter and walked five.

ECCC, Southwest split

The Lady Diamond Warriors split a doubleheader with Southwest Mississippi Community College on Monday, Feb. 25 in Summit, winning the first contest 6-2 and falling 12-7 in the nightcap.

In the opener, EC broke a 2-2 tie by scoring four runs in the fifth inning to post the victory.

Thrash and Dennis had two hits each to lead EC, which also got singles each from Hillie, Brass and White. Dennis led the team in RBIs with three and White knocked in two runs. Russell was the winning pitcher, allowing just two earned runs on six hits through seven innings.

In the nightcap, Southwest broke a 4-4 tie by scoring seven runs in the fourth inning and held on for the victory. Dennis led the EC offense with a double and three singles. She also scored two runs. Hillie added a double, and singles each were recorded by Thrash, Brass, White and Stevens.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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WEEK OF 3-2-08

Lady Diamond Warriors sweep Delta to reach .500

from school reports

The East Central Community College Lady Diamond Warriors evened their record at 5-5 with a double-header sweep of Mississippi Delta Community College in last week's fastpitch action.

After hosting Itawamba Community College today at 1 p.m., EC will be participating in a tournament in Hattiesburg on Friday and Saturday.

EC	**10-11**
Miss. Delta	**1-10**

Leah Dennis' two-run single in the bottom of the seventh lifted EC to an 11-10 win over visiting Delta Thursday afternoon, completing a sweep of the Lady Trojans.

The Lady Warriors rallied from a 10-1 fourth-inning deficit to get the win.

Continued on 5B...
See Sweep...

Sweep...

Continued from 4B...

EC used a six-run sixth inning to close to within 10-9.

Whitnee White homered and doubled for EC and had three RBI. She also scored two runs. Dennis and Shenique Brass both singled and doubled. Brass had three RBI with Dennis getting two.

Emily Thrash, Kristen Pillsbury, and Amy Sharp each had a single.

Codee Russell was the winning pitcher for EC. She allowed one earned run on four hits through 3 1/3 innings. Amber Smith of Union was the starter and allowed eight earned runs on six hits. She fanned four batters and walked five.

In the first game, EC jumped out to a 5-0 first-inning lead and added two runs in the second and three in the fourth for the easy win.

Brass homered and singled to lead the EC offense. She also collected two RBI. Sondreia Hillie belted a double and single and Haley Chipley had two singles. Laura Smith had a single and three RBI.

Erin Breland got the win, allowing one run on just three hits through 5 1/3 innings.

Co-Lin	**4-6**
EC	**3-0**

EC dropped a double-header to Copiah-Lincoln on Feb. 27 in Wesson.

In the first contest, EC rallied from a 4-1 deficit by scoring two runs in the sixth to cut the lead to 4-3 but Co-Lin held on for the win.

Sondreia Hillie and Shenique Brass had two singles each to lead the EC offense. Singles each were recorded by Emily Thrash, Laura Smith, and Lindsey Stevens of Newton County.

Codee Russell took the loss, allowing four earned runs on 10 hits through six innings.

In the second game, EC managed just three hits — a double by Kristen Pillsbury and singles each from Thrash and Hillie.

Leah Dennis was the losing pitcher, as she allowed four earned runs on eight hits.

APPEARED IN:

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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Lady Warriors prepare for another title run

After winning three-straight MACJC Central Division titles, fifth-year head coach Scott Hill stopped short of predicting any type of championship for the 2008 version of East Central Community College fast-pitch softball, but it is quite obvious that expectations are high for another successful campaign.

Hill

Hill, whose overall record at EC stands at 130-47, said he feels "really good" about the way this team is preparing for season action, which gets underway at 1 p.m. Friday, February 15 against visiting Southwest Mississippi Community College. And as in the past, he anticipates another trip to the state and region playoffs.

"Our team will definitely be focusing on some specific team and individual goals," Hill stated. "We go into each year with some general goals like finishing with a winning record and competing in the post season. We want to play hard each time we take the field and hopefully get a little better as the season goes on."

He added, "We know that the division schedule is as tough as it has ever been. We will have to play well throughout the entire season."

Hill said this year's squad features a "good mixture" of returnees and newcomers.

Five players return from last year's 29-22 squad, which won the MACJC Central Division title with a 12-4 mark. Hill said he expects each player to provide "the leadership necessary for a winning campaign."

Returnees include shortstop Shenique Brass, a product of Philadelphia High School; centerfielder Sondreia Hillie, first baseman Laura Smith and right fielder/first baseman Whitnee White, all from Neshoba Central; and third baseman Lindsey Stevens of Newton County High School.

Brass made the All-Region 23 and first team MACJC All-State and All-Division teams and was named the Lady Warriors' most outstanding offensive player. She batted .438 with 10 home runs, two triples and 21 doubles. She led the team in RBIs with 62.

See **FAST**, Page 22

The 2008 East fastpitch softball team

WEEK OF 2-25-08

Lady Warriors split with Jones

from school reports

Freshman Emily Thrash of Sebastopol knocked in the winning run for the East Central Community College fast-pitch softball team which rallied for a 9-8 victory against visiting Jones County Junior College in the second game of a Feb. 19 doubleheader in Decatur.

Thrash's single capped a three-run, seventh-inning comeback for the Lady Diamond Warriors whose records stands at 2-2 on the young season under fifth-year head coach Scott Hill.

Shenique Brass led off the inning by belting a double and later scored on a single by Whitnee White. Lindsey Stevens, a product of Newton County High School, tied the contest at 8-8 when she scored on a sacrifice fly by Kristen Pillsbury, also a former Lady Cougar.

Newton County product Megan Munn, who had reached base on a fielder's choice and moved to second on a wild pitch, scored the winning run from second on Thrash's single.

Brass led the Lady Warrior offense with two doubles and two singles. Thrash had a double and two singles and led in RBIs with two. White also pounded two singles.

Amber Smith of Union and Leah Dennis shared pitching duties for the Lady Warriors. Smith hurled the first five innings, allowing two earned runs on nine hits. She fanned six batters and walked none. Dennis pitched the final two innings, giving up three earned runs on two hits. She fanned three batters and walked one.

In the first game, Jones cruised to an 8-3 win, scoring four runs in the second inning and four in the fourth.

The Lady Warriors tallied one run in the fourth and two in the seventh. The final two runs came on Thrash's two-run homer.

Haley Chipley had a double and single and Sondriea Hillie also doubled.

Codee Russell started in the circle for EC. She allowed five earned runs on six hits through four innings. She fanned two batters and walked one.

Erin Breland pitched the final three innings and allowed one hit and no runs. She fanned two batters and walked none.

Games scheduled with Itawamba Community College on Feb. 21 and Pearl River Community College on Feb. 22 were postponed due to inclement weather. No makeup dates have been set.

Next up for EC is a doubleheader at Copiah-Lincoln Community College today. The Lady Diamond Warriors host Mississippi Delta Community College on Thursday.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF 2-18-08

Lady Warriors split with Southwest

from school reports

East Central Community College began the 2008 softball season by splitting a doubleheader with Southwest Mississippi Community College Friday afternoon in Decatur.

The Lady Diamond Warriors fell 6-4 in the opener but rallied for a 10-2 blowout — powered by a grand slam by Whitnee White of Neshoba Central — to earn the split.

In the first contest, EC jumped out to a 3-0 first inning lead and held a 4-3 advantage in the seventh, when the Lady Bears rallied for three runs to claim the win.

Shenique Brass led the EC offense with a double and single, and Laura Smith added two singles. Also recording singles were White, Sondreia Hillie, Leah Dennis, and Emily Thrash.

Erin Breland took the loss for EC, allowing four runs on five hits in the final 1 2/3 innings. Codee Russell was the starter, allowing two runs on three hits through five innings. She fanned two batters.

In the second game, White's grand slam helped give EC a 5-0 lead in the first inning. The Lady Warriors added two runs in the second and three in the fourth in registering the easy victory.

White also had two singles and collected nine RBIs. She scored two runs.

Other hitters were Lindsey Stevens, who doubled, and Dennis and Hillie, who had two singles each. Dennis and Hillie also scored three runs apiece.

Amber Smith of Union picked up the win, allowing just one run on three hits through 4 1/3 innings. She walked two batters. Dennis pitched one inning and gave up one run. She fanned one batter.

EC travels to Itawamba Community College in Fulton on Thursday and hosts Pearl River Community College beginning at 1 p.m. on Friday.

APPEARED IN:

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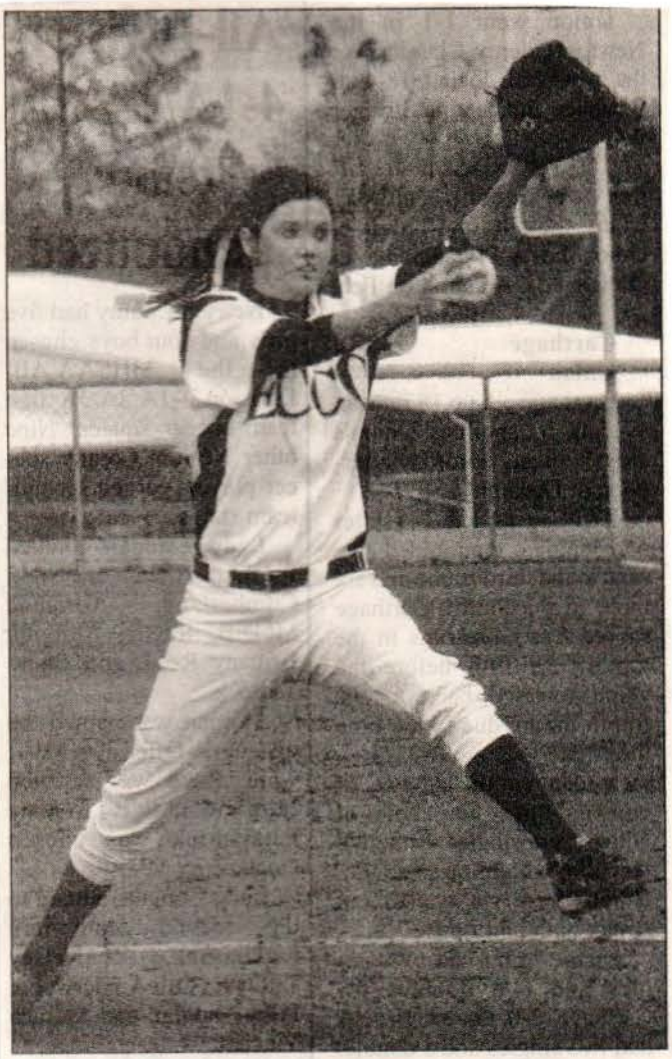
WEEK OF 2-18-2008



Freshman Codee Russell of Leake Academy pitches for the East Central Community College Lady Warriors in their season opener with Southwest Mississippi Community College.

Photo by Marty Stamper

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 2-18-08

ECCC Lady Diamond Warriors softball team

Members of the East Central Community College Lady Diamond Warrior fast-pitch softball team and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) catcher Leah Dennis, Neshoba Central; pitcher/infielder Amber Smith, Union; infielder Shana Easley, Florence; infielder Lindsey Stevens, Newton County; outfielder Sondreia Hillie, Neshoba Central; infielder Shenique Brass, Philadelphia; and infielder/catcher Emily Thrash, Sebastopol; (second row, from left) manager Emily Wooten, Carthage; infielder Haley Chipley, Carthage; outfielder Allison Phillips, Leake Academy; pitcher Codee Russell, Leake Academy; pitcher/outfielder Erin Breland, Philadelphia; infielder Megan Munn, Newton County; outfielder Kristen Pillsbury, Newton County; outfielder Genny Freeman, West Jones; and manager Drew Crowell, Forest; and (back row, from left) managers Justin Boone of Louisville and Alex Deason of Philadelphia; outfielder Nichole Ball, Winston Academy; infielder Laura Smith, Neshoba Central; pitcher Amy Sharp, Neshoba Central; outfielder/infielder Whitnee White, Neshoba Central; assistant coach Tiffany Thomas and head coach Scott Hill.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 2-18-08

ECCC Lady Diamond Warriors managers

Serving as student assistants for the 2008 fast-pitch softball team at East Central Community College in Decatur are (from left) Alex Deason of Philadelphia, Emily Wooten of Carthage, Drew Crowell of Forest and Justin Boone of Louisville. Scott Hill serves as head coach.

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

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WEEK OF 2-18-2008

Ball joins Lady Diamond Warriors

Outfielder Nichole Ball of Louisville, a product of Winston Academy, is member of the 2008 fast-pitch softball team at East Central Community College in Decatur. Scott Hill serves as head coach.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

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WEEK OF _____

Walters, Gaines Named Mr., Miss East Central

Tyler Walters, a graduate of Forest High School, and Julie Gaines, a graduate of Neshoba Central High School, were recently selected Mr. and Miss East Central Community College following elections held on the Decatur campus.

Walters, a secondary education major, is the son of Roger and Lisa Walters of Forest.

He is a member of the Warrior tennis team and is actively involved in intramural sports. He was a member of the Warrior football team his freshman year.

A Dean's List scholar, Walters is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of the two-year college.

He has also earned the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest award in scouting.

Gaines, a physical therapy major, is the daughter of Keith and Rita Gaines of Philadelphia.

She serves as secretary of the Student Body Association and is a member of the Warrior Corps, Baptist Student Union, Sigma Sigma Mu Tau and The Tom Tom student newspaper staff. She also served as president of her freshman class.

In addition, she is a member of the Lady Warrior tennis team and participates in intramural sports.

A President's List Scholar she is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and was named to Who's Who Among Students in American Community Colleges.

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WEEK OF _____

ECCC student identified in campus incident

(DECATUR)A 23-year-old male from Ridgeland has been identified as the East Central Community College student whose body was found in his dorm room Tuesday morning (Feb. 26) on the Decatur campus.

Mark McEachern, who officials say was the victim of an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound, was a cosmetology student at East Central where he enrolled in classes last fall, according to ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. McEachern had only recently moved into campus housing. McEachern attended Madison Central High School and was a 2002 graduate of The Education Center. He also attended Hinds Community College and Mississippi State University. "We again want to express our deepest sympathies to Mark's family during this most trying time," said Dr. Sutphin.

Counselors were available on campus to assist students and College personnel in coping with the tragedy.

APPEARED IN:

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UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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EC Scholarship recipents

Sophomore Emily Thrash, a graduate of Sebastopol High School, is the 2008 recipient of the Leon Eubank KALJYC-Peers Scholarship.

Lindsey Stuart, a 2008 graduate of Sebastopol High School, is the recipient of the Andrew Wilson Lathem Scholarship.

Hannah Watkins, a 2008 graduate of Sebastopol High School, is the recipient of the Jack and Mary Jo White Scholarship.

These three students from Sebastopol were among those who received scholarships during East Central Community College's AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photos)

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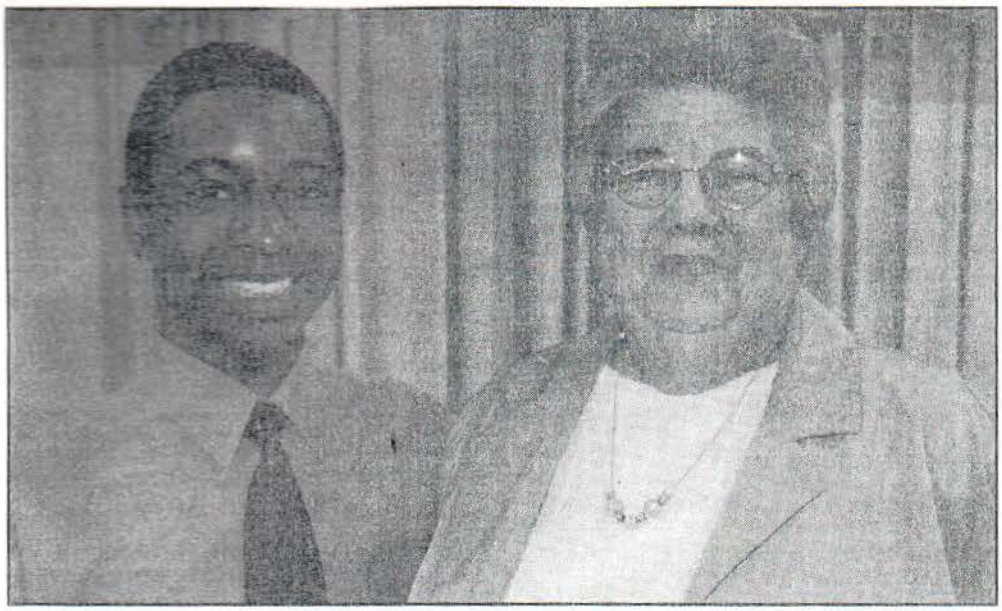

RECEIVES BURKES, MOSAL SCHOLARSHIPS AT ECCC: East Central Community College sophomore Shaun Cooper (left) of Decatur is the recipient of the 2008 Ann H. Burkes Scholarship and the 2008 Dr. Margaret Mosal Memorial Scholarship. Established in 1999 to honor the life and works of Ann Hunter Burkes (right) of Decatur, a longtime employee and Phi Theta Kappa advisor at East Central, the Burkes Scholarship is awarded to a returning Phi Theta Kappa member. The Mosal Scholarship was endowed by the late Dr. Shelby Harris to honor Dr. Mosal, former executive director of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of the two-year college. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 14, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria

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RECEIVES NEWSOME SCHOLARSHIP: Sandra Rasco (left) of Newton is the recipient of the Stella Newsome Scholarship at East Central Community College. Endowed in 1999, this scholarship honors the memory of Stella Weathersby Newsome, who served the college as a literature instructor and in various other capacities for 30 years, from 1928 to 1958. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC academic counselor Lanette Hanna. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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RECEIVE ROTARY SCHOLARSHIPS: Jody Lawson (left) and Shaterica Curry (center), both 2008 graduates of Newton County High School, are the recipients of the Newton Rotary Scholarships at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured with the recipients is ECCC recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director Ramonica Evans. The awards were presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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RECEIVES PHILLIPS SCHOLARSHIP: Kyle Ethridge (center), a 2008 graduate of Newton County High School, is the 2008 recipient of the Charles P. and Bonnie Saxon Phillips Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship was established in 2005 by Mr. and Mrs. Phillips and was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Representing the donors are Charles and Glenda Malone.

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ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVES HITT SCHOLARSHIP

East Central Community College sophomore Brooke Dove (left) of Sebastopol is the recipient of the Jeff and Kathy Hitt Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Established by family members in 2003, this scholarship honors the memory of Jeff, who was serving as Work-Based Learning Coordinator at ECCC at the time of his death, and his sister Kathy, who was an adolescent at the time of her death. Also pictured are Hitts daughter, Gillian (center) and his mother-in-law Faye Henley (right). The award was presented during the Colleges annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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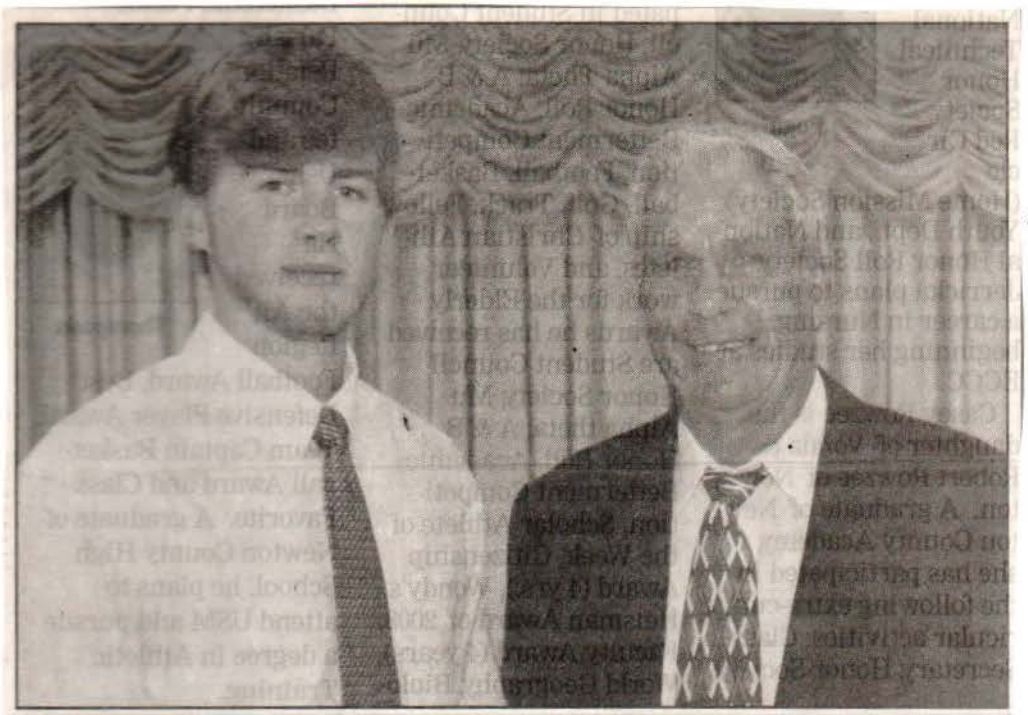

RECEIVES ECCC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIPS: Conner Herrington (left), a 2008 graduate of Leake Academy, is the recipient of the East Central Community College Alumni Association's Warrior Golf Classic Scholarship. This scholarship was established in 2002 from proceeds of the annual golf tournament. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC Alumni Association President Harvey Trapp of Newton. The awards were presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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RECEIVES SAM WALTON COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP: Laura Alexander (right), a home-schooled student from Little Rock, is the recipient of the 2008 Sam Walton Community Scholarship provided by Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. The recipient is pictured with Wal-Mart representative Katrina Tingle, following the award presentation, which was made during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PARTICIPATE IN ECCC POETRY COFFEEHOUSE: These students participated in the annual Poetry Coffeehouse hosted by Carol Shackelford's creative writing class at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (seated, from left) Angela Pires and Megan Gibson, both of Philadelphia; Patricia Vasquez of Lena, Amber Griffin of Carthage, Antwain Trotter of Meridian, Whitney Lott and Anthony Williams, both of Decatur; and instructor Carol Shackelford of Union; and (back row, from left) Sandra Whitman of Louisville, Cherith Wooten of Lake, Kristen May of Walnut Grove, Sermantha Clark of Forest, Tharin McNichols of Union, Chris Clark of Lena, Hannah McCloud of Chunky, Myrial Brown of Newton and Kass Sharp of Little Rock. Pires and Vasquez received awards in poetry and essays, respectively, from the Mississippi Community College Creative Writing Association.

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RECEIVES LAND SCHOLARSHIP: Abby McMillan (left), a 2008 graduate of Newton County Academy, is the recipient of the James E. Land Memorial Scholarship to attend East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 2003 by Dr. Harold Aycock in memory of James E. Land, a longtime professional educator, photographer and supporter of East Central. At right is ECCC academic counselor Lanette Hanna. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

RECEIVES BLOUNT SCHOLARSHIP: Melissa Ellis (left), a 2008 graduate of Leake Academy, is the recipient of the Pleas Clayton and Nancy Amanda Breazeale Blount Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Blount scholarship was endowed in the fall of 2000 in memory of this couple and in honor of their 12 children. Pictured with the recipient is family representative Lois Blount Cooper of Decatur. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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RECEIVES DAVIS SCHOLARSHIP: Amber Eaves of Louisville, a 2008 graduate of East Central Community College, is the recipient of the College's Aaron Ron Davis Memorial Scholarship. Pictured with the recipient is Davis' widow, Patti Davis of Decatur. This scholarship was established in 2006 to honor the memory of Ron Davis who taught in the ECCC science department for 19 years. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Banquet

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ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVES HANNAH SCHOLARSHIP

Krista Thrash (left), a 2008 graduate of Union High School, is the recipient of the R.O. and Bertha Hannah Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship was established in 1991 by the four sons of R.O. and Bertha Hannah, all of whom attended East Central. The recipient is pictured with ECCC recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director Ramonica Evans. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVES HAYWOOD SCHOLARSHIP

Reaghan Mayes (left), a 2008 graduate of Sebastopol High School, is the recipient of the Sylvia Ann Graham Haywood Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established by former ECCC business manager William Thomas Haywood to honor the memory of his wife, Sylvia. Pictured with the recipient is Brenda Cheatham, administrative assistant in the Office of Student Services. The award was presented during the Colleges annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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Avalos Attends ECCC Orientation

Ysabel Avalos (right), a 2008 graduate of Morton High School, was among area students who attended the May 30 Orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Helping her prepare her fall class schedule is ECCC assistant band director Jared Brownlee. In addition to attending classes, Avalos will also serve as assistant drum major for the ECCC Wall O' Sound Marching Band this fall. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Saturday, June 7; Thursday, June 26; Wednesday, July 16; and Friday, August 15. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 21. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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Students attend East Central CC June 7 orientation

Approximately 150 students registered for fall classes by attending the June 7 orientation session at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Joe Killens, vice-president for student services.

Remaining orientation sessions are scheduled Wednesday, July 16, and Friday, Aug. 15. Fall classes begin Thursday, Aug. 21.

Students from *The Carthaginian* readership who attended the session and their respective high schools include the following:

Jessica Nicole Cherry and Ashley E. Gibbs, both of Carthage; Norma Jean Bacon and Tristain McNeil McMillan, both of Choctaw Central; Tyler Allen Adcock, Edinburg;

Kristy Lynn Chamblee, Benjamin William Crawford, James Cory Harkins, Joseph Casity Hoffman, Emily Kristen Kemp and Tara Rose Gilmer, all of Leake Academy;

Jeremy A. Holifield, Kayla Michelle Sullivan, Daniel Eric Bankston, Austin Shane Hickman and Tiffany Leeann Lowery, all of Sebastopol;

Josiephine McDonald, South Leake; and Garnell Denise Moses, Thomastown.

Also attending was Donald Blake Hunter, Carthage.

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Receives Bank of Morton Scholarship

Morton High School graduate Brittany Cameron (left) is the recipient of the Bank of Morton Scholarship and will be attending East Central Community College in Decatur this fall. Also pictured is bank representative Lindsley Keeton (right). The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

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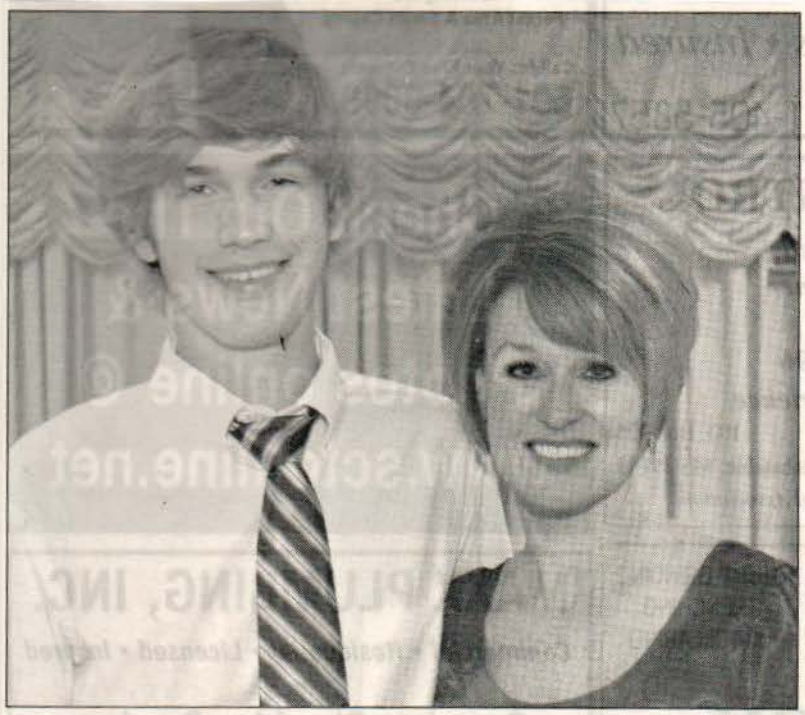

ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVES DOBBS SCHOLARSHIP

Neshoba Central High School graduate Griffin Burk (left) is the recipient of the 2008 Tony Dobbs Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Established in 2004 in honor and memory of the late Tony Dobbs, the scholarship is presented to an incoming freshman on the ECCC golf team. Pictured with the recipient is Brenda Cheatham, administrative assistant in the ECCC Office of Student Services. The award was presented during the Colleges annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

RECEIVES ECCC CLASS OF 1964 SCHOLARSHIP: Sarah Eakes (center) of Little Rock is the recipient of the Class of 1964 Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established by the Class of 1964 during their 40-year class reunion in 2004. Representing the donors are Jerald and Rita Everett. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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RECEIVES CLAYTON BLOUNT SCHOLARSHIP: Nathan Rowell (left), a 2008 graduate of Neshoba Central High School, is the recipient of the Clayton Blount Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Representing the donors is Lois Blount Cooper (right) of Decatur. The scholarship was established in honor of Coach Blount in 1995 by his former players. During his employment at ECCC from 1953 to 1970, Blount served in various capacities including physical education teacher, coach, dean of men and athletic director. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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RECEIVES BEEMON SCHOLARSHIP: Newton County High School graduate Racheal Addy (left) is the recipient of the 2008 T.T. Beemon Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Beemon scholarship was established in 2001 by T.T. Beemon, ECCC Class of 1937, and his wife, the former Mary Emma Fancher. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director Ramonica Evans. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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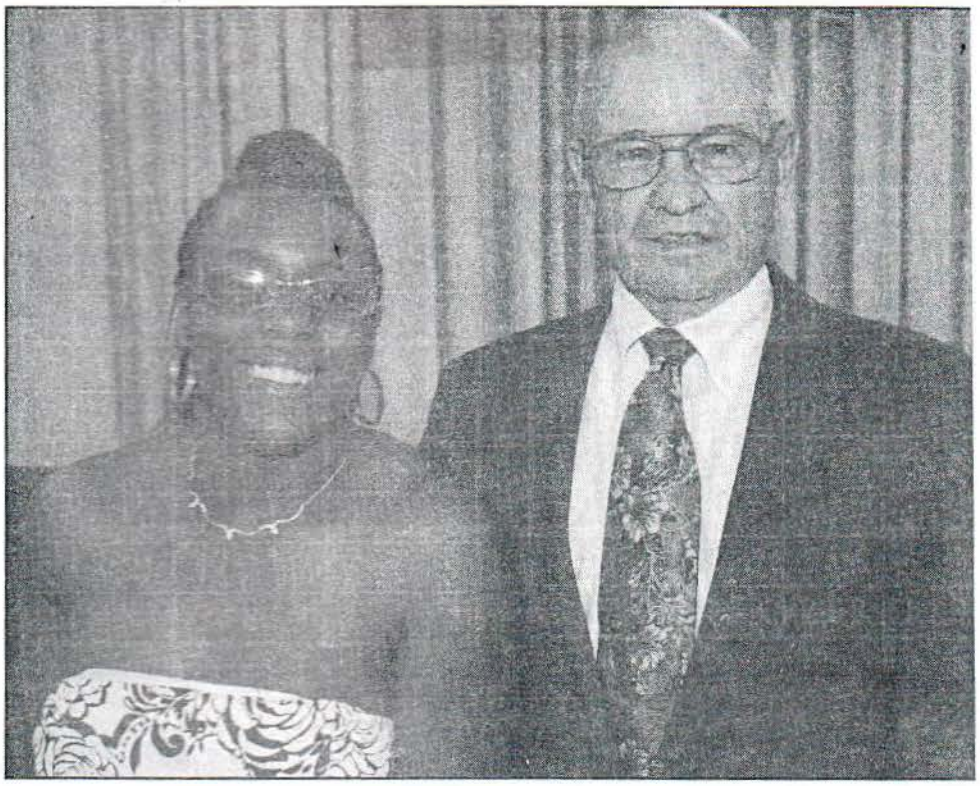

RECEIVES HUMMEL SCHOLARSHIP: East Central Community College sophomore Shardae Foley (left) of Hickory is the recipient of the 2008 Martha Kate Tullos Humme scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship was endowed by Mrs. Hummel's husband, Don (pictured at right), and their sons in 2006. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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RECEIVES WILSON SCHOLARSHIP: East Central Community College sophomore Shaun Cooper (center) of Decatur is the recipient of the 2008 General William Patrick Wilson Memorial Scholarship. The recipient is pictured with ECCC academic counselor Lanette Hanna, following the award presentation, which was made during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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RECEIVE LA-Z-BOY SCHOLARSHIPS: East Central Community College sophomores Anna Johnson (second from left) of Union and Callie Cumberland (third from left) of Decatur are this year's recipients of the La-Z-Boy South Scholarships at East Central Community College in Decatur. Representing La-Z-Boy are Tom Keith (right) and Julie Rowzee (left). The awards were presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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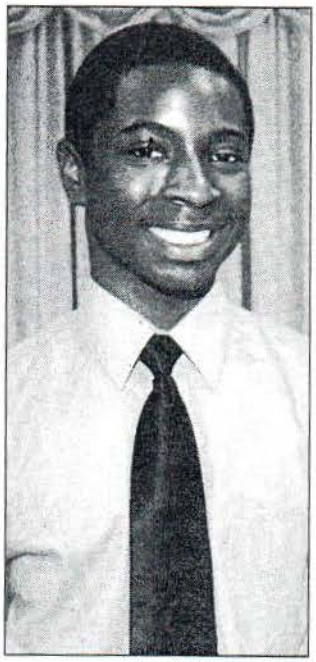
EC Scholarship recipents

East Central Community College sophomore Megan Munn (left) of Decatur is the recipient of the 2008 Lucille Wood Scholarship.

Kyle Ethridge (center), a 2008 graduate of Newton County High School, is the 2008 recipient of the Charles P. and Bonnie Saxon Phillips Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship was established in 2005 by Mr. and Mrs. Phillips

Laura Alexander (right), a home-schooled student from Little Rock, is the recipient of the 2008 Sam Walton Community Scholarship provided by Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.



East Central Community College sophomore Shaun Cooper (center) of Decatur is the recipient of the 2008 General William Patrick Wilson Memorial Scholarship.

These four students were among those who received scholarships during East Central Community Sollege's AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photos)

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Scholarships awarded

Students receive Mississippi Association of Supervisors Scholarships

Recipients of the 2008 Mississippi Association of Supervisors Scholarships at East Central Community College in Decatur and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) Tabatha Shay Adcock, Neshoba Central; Brittany Cameron, Morton; Kayla Dewberry, Nanih Waiya; Ashley Dumas, Newton County; and Danielle Knotts, Nanih Waiya; and (standing, from left) Will McBeth, Leake Academy; Cody Walters, Forest; and Jodie Walters, Union. Also pictured and representing the district supervisors are Charles Moulds (standing, second from right), president of the Newton County Board of Supervisors, and Harold Reynolds (standing, right), president of the Neshoba County Board of Supervisors. Recipients not pictured are Tiffany Lowery, Sebastopol High School, and Emily Pace, Newton County High School. These scholarships were established in 1996 by the State Association of Supervisors. The awards were presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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Blackwell awarded

Receives Board of Trustees Scholarship

Kimberly Blackwell (left), a 2008 graduate of Nanih Waiya High School, is the recipient of the Board of Trustees Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured with the award recipient is Board President Prentice Copeland of Philadelphia. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

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Drury gains scholarship

Receives Vance Scholarship

Jacob Drury (left), a 2008 graduate of Grace Christian Acdemy, is the recipient of the James M. Vance Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 2005 by Margaret Vance Scardaci in honor of her brother. Representing the donors is Ann Burkes. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo).

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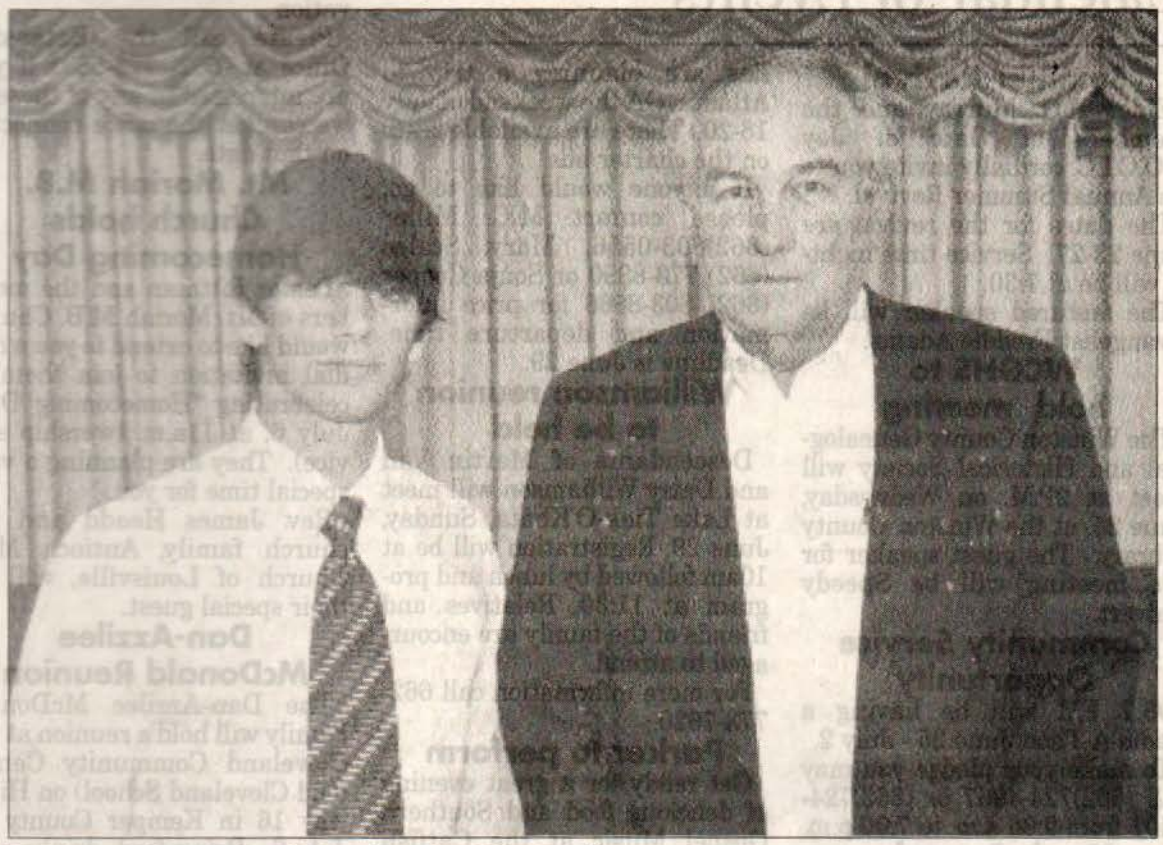
Holdiness earns scholar-



Receives Johnson Family Engineering Scholarship
Drew Holdiness (left), a 2008 graduate of Nanih Waiya High School, is the recipient of the Johnson Family Engineering Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 2007 and is given in memory of Lee E. and Lizzie Graham Johnson by their children. Representing the donors is Joe Johnson. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

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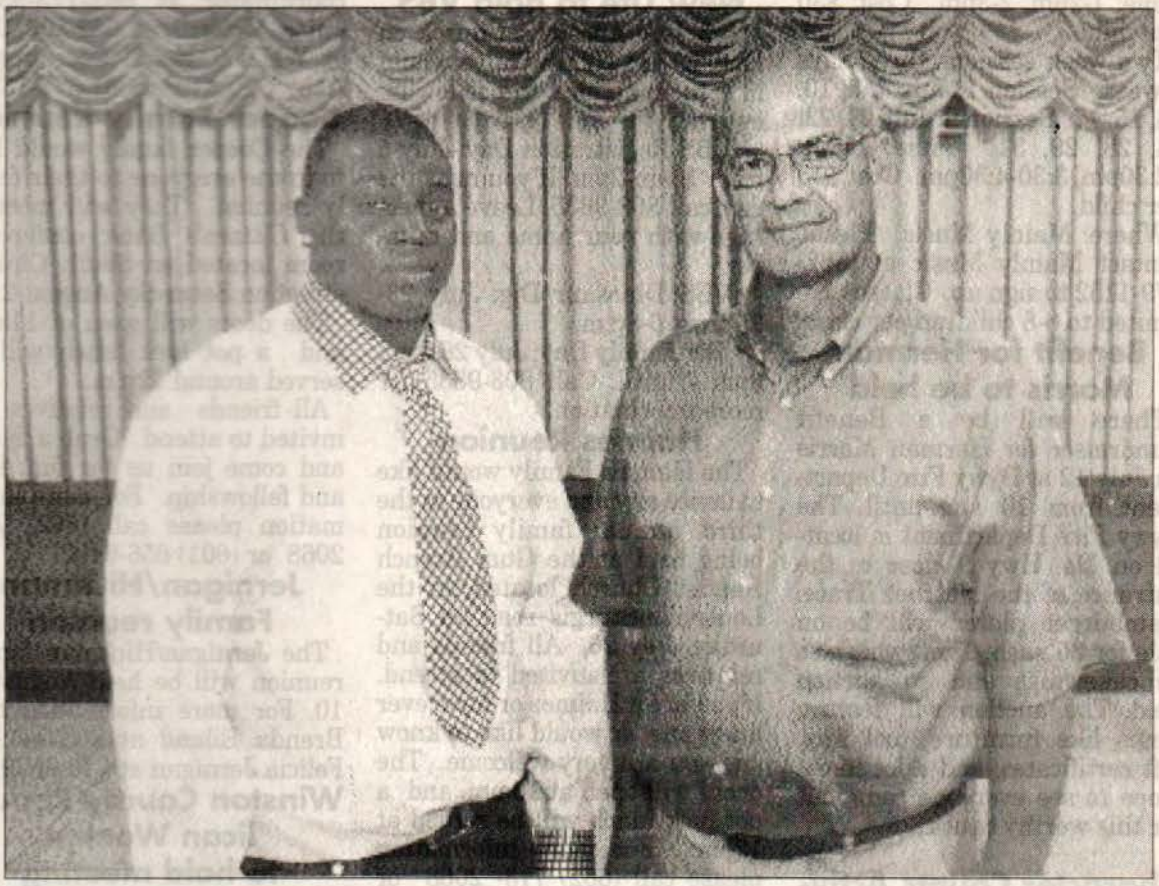

Receives Taylor Welding Scholarship
Marcus Holmes (left), a 2008 graduate of Louisville High School, is the recipient of the 2008 Taylor Advanced Welding Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Representing the donors is Bobby Ellis. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

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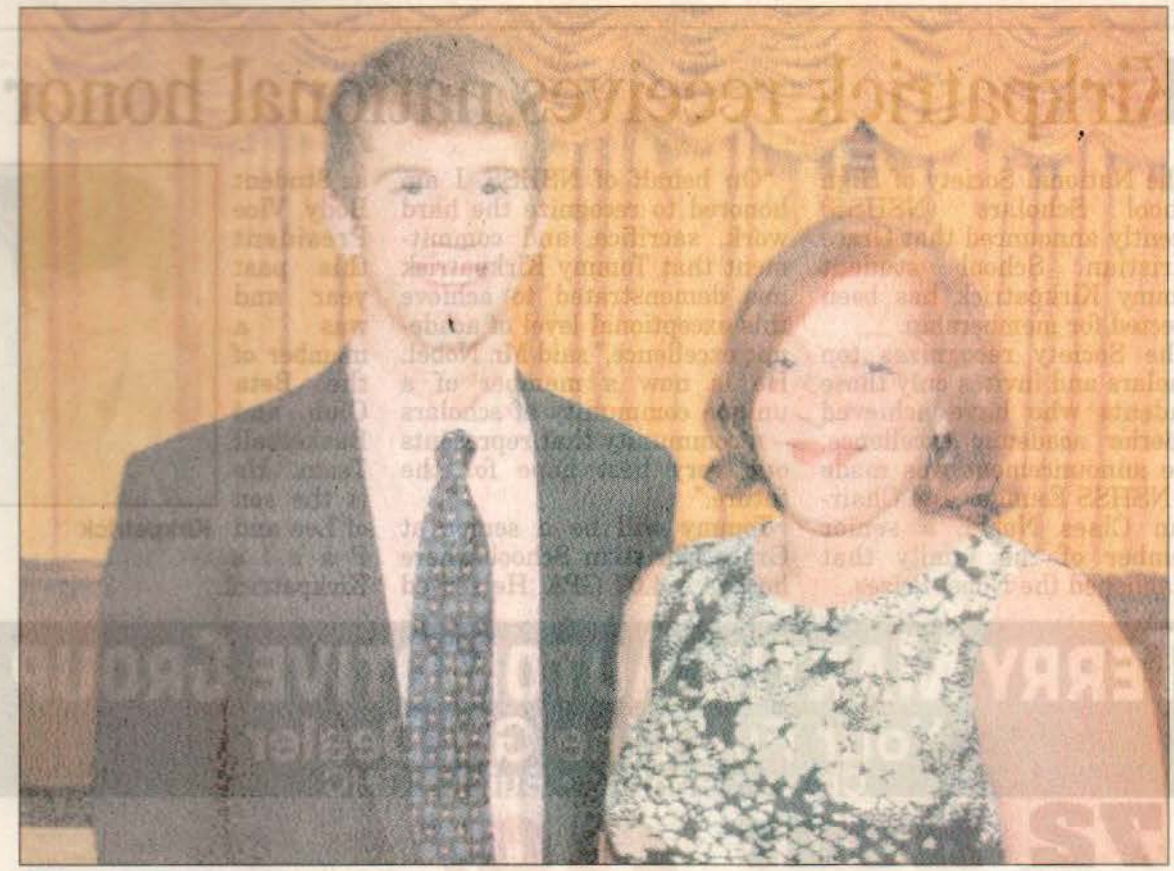
Smith earns scholarship



Receives Wilkes-Palmer Scholarship

Drew Smith (left), a 2008 graduate of Louisville High School, is the recipient of the Wilkes-Palmer Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 1998 by the late Elgie Chatham in honor of her parents, J. Earl and Willie Palmer Wilkes. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director Ramonica Evans. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

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Eaves receives

Receives Davis Scholarship

Amber Eaves of Louisville, a 2008 graduate of East Central Community College, is the recipient of the College's Aaron Ron Davis Memorial Scholarship. Pictured with the recipient is Davis' widow, Patti Davis of Decatur. This scholarship was established in 2006 to honor the memory of Ron Davis who taught in the ECCC science department for 19 years. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, 2008. (EC Photo)

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Childress receives Hudspeth Scholarship

East Central Community College sophomore Lamarrius Childress (third from left) of Louisville is the recipient of the Hudspeth Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship was established in 1998 by Henry B. "Bubba" and Faye Hudspeth (pictured at right). Mr. Hudspeth was a longtime member and former president of the ECCC Board of Trustees. Also pictured are Childress' parents Terry and Joesphine Triplett. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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Ward scholarship awarded

Receives Ward Scholarship

Jason Hancock (center), a 2008 graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the Charles E. Ward Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College. The scholarship was established in 2003 by Mr. Ward's widow, Gail Ward (left), and their three sons, Roger, Mike and David Ward. Representing the donors are Charles' sisters, Gloria Joiner (left) and Nancy Quinn. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo) www.eccc.edu

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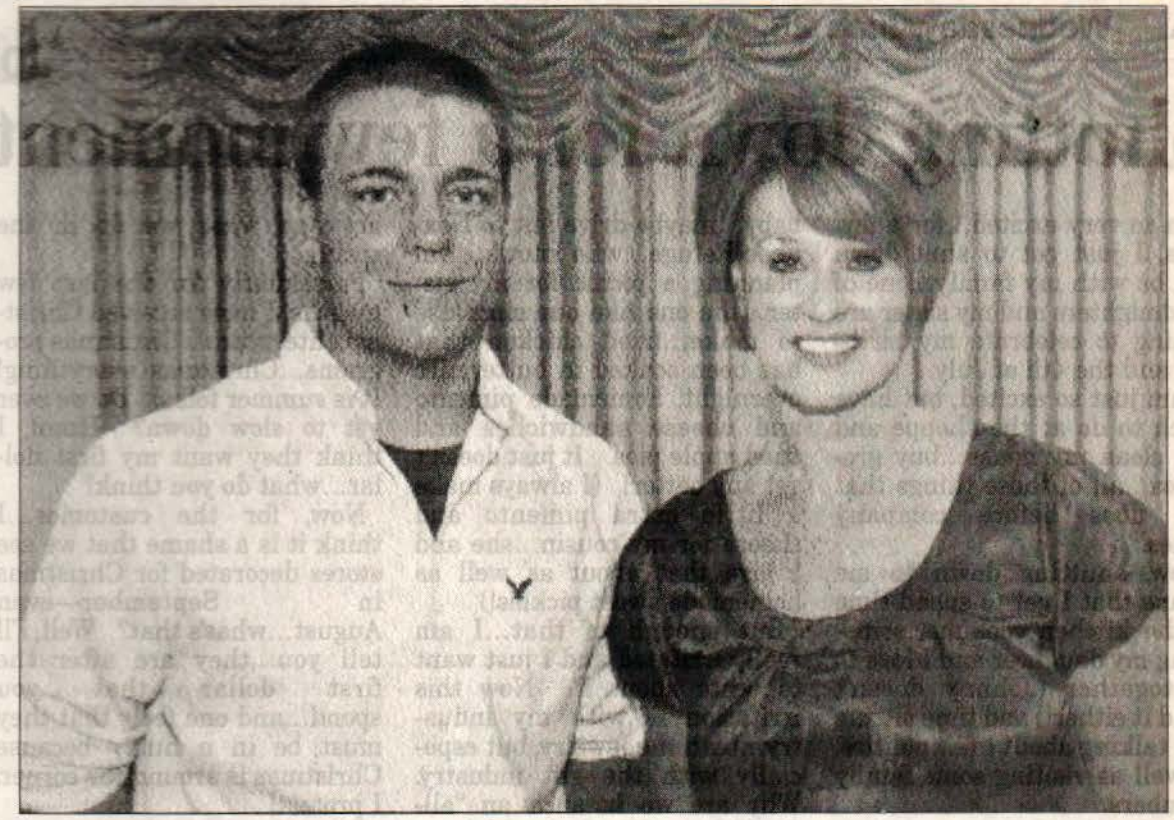
Moody earns scholarship



Receives Boswell Scholarship
Nanih Waiya High School graduate Hailey Moody (left) is the recipient of the 2008 Earnest Harrison Boswell Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Boswell scholarship was established in 2006 by Mr. Boswell's wife and children to honor his memory. Pictured with the recipient is Brenda Cheatham, administrative assistant in the Office of Student Services. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)www.eccc.edu

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Warner receives scholarship

Receives Williamson-Chisolm Scholarship
Cody Warner (left), a 2008 graduate of Winston Academy, is the recipient of the Jones and Carrie Williamson and Bascom and Hattie Chisolm Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 1996 by Dolphus (right) and Sybil Williamson. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

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RECEIVES EUBANKS KALJYC-PEERS SCHOLARSHIP

Sophomore Emily Thrash (left), a graduate of Sebastopol High School, is the 2008 recipient of the Leon Eubank KALJYC-Peers Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The award is presented each year to the incoming Student Body Association president. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director Ramonica Evans. The award was presented during the Colleges annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVES GUNTER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Chelsey Thomas, a 2008 graduate of Forest High School, is the recipient of the 2008 Sue Gunter Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship was established in memory of Sue Gunter by her friend and former classmate, Mrs. Jessie Whittle, to honor the life and numerous accomplishments of the Leake County native, who was a longtime successful head coach of the Louisiana State University womens basketball team. The award was presented during the Colleges annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, 2008.

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RECEIVES SCHOLARSHIP

Jordan Gunn (left), a 2008 graduate of Lake High School, is the recipient of the Bank of Forest Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. He is pictured with bank representative Drew Kenna. The award was presented during the Colleges annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVE USM SCHOLARSHIPS

These East Central Community College students received various transfer scholarships to the University of Southern Mississippi, which were presented during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 1 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Scholarship recipients include (from left) Joseph Cieglo of Forest, Ashley Henley of Newton, Elaina James of Louin, Beth Alexander of Little Rock and Brittany White of Union. Also shown is ECCC Vice President for Student Services Joe Killens. Scholarship recipients not pictured are Lucy Burns and Alexandria Harris, both of Carthage.

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Receives Sam Rush Memorial Scholarship

Brandon Cox, center, a 2008 graduate of Neshoba Central High School, is the recipient of the Sam Rush Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College. The scholarship was established in 2000 by the Philadelphia Sertoma Club as part of their emphasis on education and was renamed in 2005 to honor the memory of Sam Rush. Representing the Sertoma Club is Ben Peebles, left, and Leigh Ann Rush, Sam's mother. The award was presented during the college's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

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Leanna Smith, a 2008 graduate of Union High School, is the recipient of the AT&T Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 2002 by AT&T. The award was presented during the College's annual Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon, which is also sponsored by AT&T, held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

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East Central Community College sophomore Brooke Dove (left) of Sebastopol is the recipient of the Jeff and Kathy Hitt Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Established by family members in 2003, this scholarship honors the memory of Jeff, who was serving as Work-Based Learning Coordinator at ECCC at the time of his death, and his sister Kathy, who was an adolescent at the time of her death. Also pictured are Hitt's daughter, Gillian (center) and his mother-in-law Faye Henley (right). The award was presented June 12.

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Fulton and scholarship

Receives Citizens Bank Scholarship

Anna Fulton (left), a 2008 graduate of Nanih Waiya High School, is the recipient of the Citizens Bank of Philadelphia Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Representing the bank is Kenneth Jones, president of the Decatur branch. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

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Numerous students attend ECCC's June 7 orientation

Approximately 150 students registered for fall classes by attending the June 7 orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Joe Killens, vice president for student services.

Remaining orientation sessions are scheduled Thursday, June 26; Wednesday, July 16; and Friday, August 15. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 21.

Students who attended the session and their respective high schools include the following:

Louisville

Beverly Anntonette Carter, Jennifer Carol Clark, Shannon Lanae Gregory, Douglas Wade Janz, Brianna Nicole McDaniel, Denitra Tierra Murff, Allison Renee Rogers, Precious Ladoris Triplett, Austin Riley Vernon, Rose Mary Eichelberger and Elizabeth Wilma Fulgham

Nanih Waiya

Dana Melissa Christian, Anna Elizabeth Fulton, Daniella Grace Knotts, James Tyler Robbins, Sharon Ann Foskitt, Lauren Marie Luke and Hailey Emmett Moody;

Noxapater

Palmer Gary Merkel, Markus T. Culberson, Delvontrese Keljuan Goss, Erik Antuan Hathorn, Mary Elizabeth Reynolds, Emily Kristyn Shearer and Quentin M. Stephens;

Winston Academy

John Zachary Boswell, Lindsey Brooke Clark and Stephen Clay Cockrell.

Also attending were James Marshall Wood, Sylinna McCarter Haynes and Chinara Monique Young, all of Louisville; Karla Jo Fisher, Noxapater.

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ECCC Orientation session attracts record number of students

The summer orientation schedule began on a successful note for East Central Community College in Decatur, as a record 396 students attended the May 30 session.

Although a record number attended the first session, Joe Killens, vice president for student services, said efforts are still underway to attract more students to the Decatur campus.

"We are continuing our recruiting efforts in order to obtain our goal of increasing enrollment for the fall semester," Killens said. "We encourage new students to attend the earliest orientation possible so that they can take the classes they need at the times they prefer. We also encourage any returning students that did not advance register for the fall semester to come in any time and register for classes."

Remaining orientation sessions are scheduled Thursday, June 26; Wednesday, July 16; and Friday, August 15. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 21.

Students who attended the May 30 session and their respective high schools include the following:

Louisville: Jarred Lewis Fleming, Angel Lee Hunt, Zachary Taylor Eaves, Bonnie Kathryn Hailey, Drew Thomas Smith, Karlon C. Johnson, Melanie Sabrina Banks, Justin Cortez Gill, Courtney K. Cravens, Jason Scott Hill, Joseph Dale McNeill, Lindsey Lanell Donald, Alison Gayle Walker, Brandi Michelle Hopkins, Ashton Sylvia Lowrey, Demetria Lajoyce Coleman, Conashya Delashya Headd, Kevin Douglas Haynes, Demario M. Eichelberger, Jerica Ann Taylor, Delia Rosie Haynes, Dustin Levi Stewart, Antonio Demon Hardin, Trinelius Jamal Triplett, and Amanda Leigh Watts McCool

Nanih Waiya: Kayla Goodin Dewberry, Denetra Danielle Darden and Kayla Laquitta Hampton;

Noxapater: Cledeeden Drenell Dotson, Krystal Lashae Haynes, Linden Jawaski Ball, Janika Antylnette Moore, Ladisha Briana Moore, Stephanie Lynn Pendleton, Ashley Nicole Drewery, Jaqlene Amanda Robinson, James Kenny Drury, Christopher M. Edwards and Brooklynn Paige Boyette; Benson;

Winston Academy: Chelsey Elaine Boatner, Paul David Hatcher, Michael Olyn Hindman, Alison Nicole Lowery, Cody Keith Ming, Jessica Marie Hamilton, Kaylin Brook Jones, Anna Claire Peeples, Alexandria Clay Smith, Cody Oliver Warner, James Tyler Moffitt, Kelsey Jewell White and Heidi Dawn Barrier.

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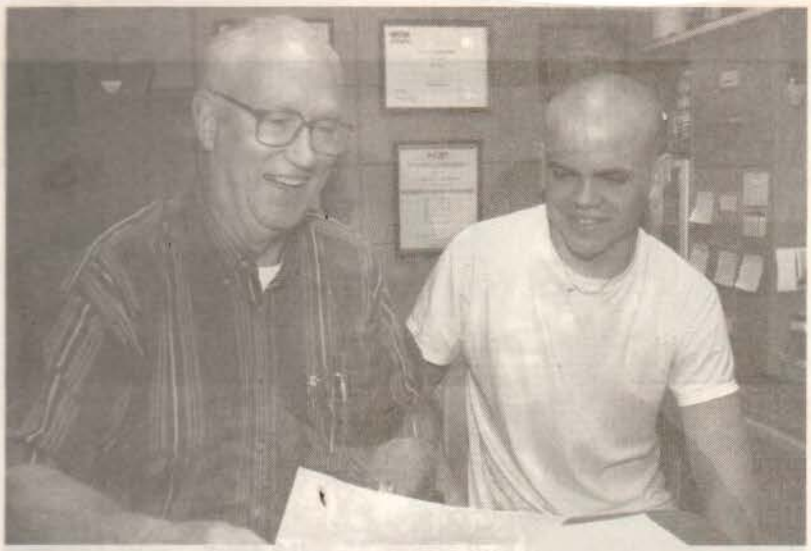

Harrison Attends ECCC Orientation

Douglas Harrison (right), a 2008 graduate of Morton High School, was among area students who attended the May 30 Orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Helping him prepare his fall class schedule is ECCC collision repair technology instructor Conrad Germany. In addition to registering for fall classes, students can learn about the various opportunities available on the EC campus Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Saturday, June 7; Thursday, June 26; Wednesday, July 16; and Friday, August 15. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 21. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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ECCC CLUB DONATES TO DECATUR SIREN PROJECT: SkillsUSA students at East Central Community College in Decatur recently raised funds for the Decatur Siren Project, which involves the purchase of five weather-alert sirens. One of the sirens is designated for the ECCC campus. Evan Smart (second from left) of Philadelphia, club president, presents a $1000 check for the project to Mayor Bruce Cater. Also pictured are John Everett (left), SkillsUSA adviser and electrical technology instructor, and Randy Rushing of the Decatur Police Department. Total cost for all five sirens is $100,000. Mayor Cater said 75% of the funding will come from grant money. The remaining $25,000 is being raised on the local level.

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Area students attend ECCC May 30 orientation

The summer orientation schedule began on a successful-note for East Central Community College in Decatur, as a record 396 students attended the May 30 session.

Although a record number attened the first session, Joe Killens, vice-president for student services, said efforts are still underway to attract more students to the Decatur campus.

Students from *The Carthaginian* readershop who attended the session and their respective high schools include the following:

Brandy Nicole Greer, Cayla Delaine Boyd, Alicia Marie Jayroe, Jaklyn Danyel Billingsley, Robert Donald Faulkner, Sara Grace Quates, Garner Charles Brooks, Kristen Breann Malone, David Brian BUrns, Trey W. Pace, William Andrew Cherry, Jessica Nicole Cherry, Kayla C. Cook, Kerri Cherie Cook, Kayla Elizabeth Ezelle, Laquindric Antawn Stokes, Brandon Michael Busby, Jacob Cheyenne Parker and Casey Wayne Henderson, all of Carthage;

Chasity Ann McAdams, Carthage Christian Academy; Jessica Leann Bell, Winter Kate Lewis, Wauseka Wells York and Willard Bacon, all of Choctaw Centeral;

Shea Fedrick, Meaghan Marie Mayes, Reaghan Nicole Mayes, Jacqueline Celest Ward, Duong Van Nguyen, Lindsey Joyce Stuart, Hannah Carol Watkins, Katie Danielle Hedrick, Dylan Shane Fredrick, Donna Rochelle Banks, Naomi Grace Massey, Mercedes Akis Brown, Adam Corey McLemore, Steven Deotis Landrum and Thomas Joshua Underwood, all of Sebastopol; Orlando Duntrio Jones, Janna Latrise Brown, Latoria Shuntae Holifield and Courtney Dondrell Hudson, all of South Leake.

Also attending were Audrionna Faith Martin, Carthage; Joshua Everette Copes, Walnut Grove; and Flory J. Mitchell, Lena.

Amber Leigh Rhodes, Valerie B. McMurry, Amelia K. Burnside, Amanda Rene Griffith, Brandon Edward Quick, Brooklyn Leann Joiner, Ben Tyler Barrett, Ashlee Alyssa Johnston and Ryan Justin King, Aaron Joshua Wooten, Colby Jack Freeny, Leah Marie Pigg and Delaney Gwen Fortune, all of Edinburg;

James William McBeth, Jared Lane Estes, Conner David Herrington, Monica Leann James, Melissa Kuhn Ellis, Tyler Lee Jones, James Zachary Wright, Amanda Tolbert Jones, Anita Kaye Wysocki, Hannah Marie Lee and Tara Rose Gilmer, all of Leake Academy;

Carmen Alexandria Shuler, Miriah Elizabeth Barney, Jackie Ann Jones, Brittany

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ECCC's Shenique Brass Receives Third Team All-American Honors

East Central Community College fast-pitch softball standout Shenique Brass of Philadelphia has capped her career by being named to the NJCAA Division II All-American Third Team for 2008, announced Scott Hill, ECCC head softball coach.

Brass, who earlier received All Region 23, first team MACJC All-State and All-Division honors, helped lead East Central to appearances in the MACJC and Region 23 tournaments en route to 26-18 overall mark. EC qualified for post-season play by finishing second in the MACJC Central Division with a 12-4 record.

The talented shortstop led the Lady Diamond Warriors in 2008 with a .387 batting average. She belted three home runs, three triples and 15 doubles and collected 45 RBIs. She was selected the team's most valuable player and received a team captain award. Brass received All-Region 23 and first team All-State and All-Division honors following the 2007 season, when East Central finished 29-22 and captured a third-straight MACJC Central Division title.

Brass is one of only two Mississippi softball players to receive All-American honors. Copiah-Lincoln Community College pitcher Rebecca Bailey was named to the first team.

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EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ECCC scholars for the spring semester

Students named to the 2008 spring semester honor roll, which includes those selected to the President's List, Dean's List and Honorable Mention List, have been announced at East Central Community College in Decatur, according to Donna Luke, Director of Admissions, Records and Research.

PRESIDENT'S LIST

Those named to the President's List, students with a 4.0 grade point average, include the following:

CHUNKY: Jana Nicole Johnson; CONEHATTA: Heather Nichole Bounds and Angela Anne Jordan; DECATUR: Carl M. Adkins, Ashley Dru Anderson, Joseph Kyle Barrett, Joy Lynn Hayes, Philip Deante Jordan, Whitney Suzanne Knight, Fredrick F. Lyons, Megan Clarice Munn, Jeremy Jacob Saucier and Chelsey Luann Vincent; HICKORY: Ashley Nicole Henley and Rodney Dale Parker; LAKE: Joseph Thomas Cieglo, Lauryn Bethany Laird and Jason Richard Watkins; LAWRENCE: Timothy Martin Seibel and Beth Danielle Stephens; LITTLE ROCK: Russell Jordan Clark, Sarah Allison Lanier; LOUIN: Katherine Ann McDonald; NEWTON: April Nicole Dunavant, Joseph M. McDonald, Mindy Caral Parker and Theresa Rochelle White; UNION: Melissa Carol Adkins, Joshua O. Dickerson, Anna Laurie Ezelle, Jessica Lynn Galloway, Tyler Cameron Hansford, Anna Elizabeth Johnson, Daniel Hunter Johnson, Kyle David Keady, Emily Paige Thrash and Krystle E. Wolverton.

DEAN'S LIST

The Dean's List includes the following students who achieved a 3.5 or above grade point average:

CHUNKY: Caleb Scott Frink; CONEHATTA: Jessica Leanne Leach; DECATUR: Susan Naomi Brown, Shaun Michael Cooper, Cora Jean Crawford, Calli Leigh Cumberland, Caitlin Lee Harper, Apryl Suzanne Henry, Sarah Rebecca Henry, Joseph Kyle Killens, Andrew David Marshall, Kellye Paige Reeves, Crystal M. Shoemaker, Brandon L. Thompson, Anthony T. Williams; HICKORY: Jonathan Kent Federick, Jonathan L. Jackson and Brandon Cody Williams; LAKE: Brandi Renee Gray, Dollye Bilbro Packer, Shasta Lashae Shelley and Leeana E. Stiltner; LAWRENCE: Courtney L. Gammill, Amanda Michelle Hines, Jonathan K. Jacobs and Melissa Ann Rowell; LITTLE ROCK: Carole Beth Alexander and Joshua Nathan Sheehan; LOUIN: Elaina Marie James and Jean Keyes; NEWTON: Jasmine Shawanda Grass, John Curtis Little, Matt Gardner Mason, Dominique Latesch McKee, Christopher Aaron Scott Morrison, Sandra Deniese Rasco, Stephanie L. Robinson, Robert Mitchell Ward and Joaquinta S. Watts; UNION: Dennis Jay Anderson Jr., Steven Kory Culpepper, Jmarkus J. Dubose, Sabra N. Fortenberry, Jessica Leigh Lapeze, Summer Paige Lashley, Candace Dawn Long, Leslie Ann Mangrum, Tammy Lynn Plaisance, Kylie Dates Rigdon, Amber Leigh Smith, Morgan Marie Staton and Candace Nicole Vance.

HONORABLE MENTION LIST

The following students were named to the Honorable Mention List and earned a 3.0 or above grade point average:

CHUNKY: Reva Shea Coate, Susan Dana Maxwell and Hannah Marie McCloud; CONEHATTA: Kristina Marlene Bell, Jill Christine Compton, Megan Nicole McDill, Shelby Dwight Shelley, Shawntye Nicole Vaughn and Tia Marie Weaver; DECATUR: Yentl C. Brantley, Carmen Christina Ezell, Doris Ann Frith, Shakira Danielle Gaddis, Becky McMullan Garrison, Jamie Miranda Graham, Hunter Thomas Hayes, Maegan Leigh Johnston, Samuel Fox Lewis, Lachelle Marie Moss, Connie E. Parker, Rachael Renae Rainer, Chassidy Ryanne Smith, Lindsey Brooke Stevens, Brandon Scott Thomas and William Riley Walton; HICKORY: Shardae Marquett Foley, Dustin Louis Harris, Cody David Pugh, Ashley Nicole Strebeck, Angela Gail Valentine, Ted W. Valentine and Roxanne Ealy Wilson; LAKE: Santigous N. Culpepper, Freshta Violet Ejlali-Razmi, Margo Dewayne Everett, Jennifer L. Hollingsworth, Christopher Dent Kelly, Melanie Lynn Stroud, Brian Michael Waltman, Cherith Brook Wooten and Emily Michele Wynne;

LAWRENCE: Lacl

Nicole Bridges, Daniel Ryan Clanton and John Kennedy Logan; LITTLE ROCK: Andrew K. Harrison, Kass Lee Sharp, George A. Shepherd, Michael Thomas Skinner, Tegan Rebekkah Ward and Robert B. Westbrook; LOUIN: Amanda Leigh Boykin, Felicia Renee Earnest and Mark Andrew Ishee; NEWTON: Monica Dieanea Drummond, Tawayatha T. Evans, Marvin Flucker Jr., Betyna Leshara Gage, Drew Morgan Gillis, Chotsani S. Henderson, Nahamani R. Henderson, Lolita Renee Jordan, Brandy Nicole Kidd, Brookes Anne Mayes, Tawanna S. McDaniel, Myranda L. McDonald, David Wilson Miller, Joshua Webb Moore, Sharonda Lenise Moore, Sandra C. Pruitt, Rena F. Robinson, Benjamin Bounds Thames, Cynthia Marie Thompson, Skye Nichole Tindall, Erin Elise Tramill, Holly Kathleen Tullos, Hailey Christine Walker and Michael Blake Watkins; UNION: April Renea Barnett, Kriston Brooke Barrett, Henry David Benson, Julie Catherine Boswell, Kristy Denise Boswell, Nicholas Ryan Brown, Jennifer Marie Coghlan, Tiffanie Mae Credille, Austin Lee Crouthers, William J. Cunningham, Melissa Misty Ferguson, Sara Olivia Goss, Shannon M. Harrison, Edward Scott Holiday, Jennifer Magan Key, Matthew R. Livingston, Demond T. McDonald, Tharin L. McNichols, Denisha Symone Murrell, Joshua Wade Pierce, Richard Kevin Rickles, Mitchell J. Roberts, Jordan Lee Robinson, Anna Katherine Rouse, Derek Arizona Shannon, Amy Elizabeth Sharp, Karen Alice Smith, Elizabeth Ann Wade, Daniel Thomas Winstead, Ronald Dale Yates and Victoria Denise York.

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SPIRIT OF

WEEK OF June 16, 2008

ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVE ECCC CAREER AWARDS

These students received career awards during the annual East Central Commu nity College Awards Day ceremonies held May 1 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include (from left) Kendrick Nichols of Carthage, carpentr Courtney Stingley of Forest, cosmetology; and Kyle Keady of Union, welding and cutting and Career Student of the Year. Not pictured is Mindy Parker of Decatur, cabinetmaking.

APPEARED IN:

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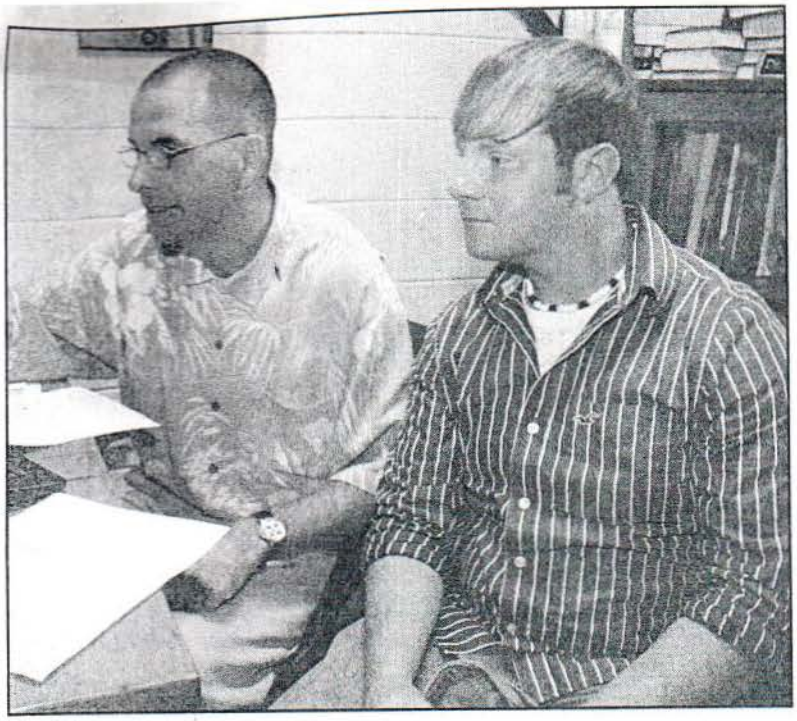
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ____
SPIRIT OF MORTON ____

DEMOCRAT ____
ECORD ____
MERIDIAN STAR ____
CLARION-LEDGER ____
THE PHILADELPHIAN ____

WEEK OF June 16, 2008



ECCC orientation attender

Zach Wright, right, a 2008 graduate of Leake Academy, was among area students who attended the May 30 orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Helping him prepare his fall class schedule is ECCC history instructor, Philip Crenshaw.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF June 16, 2008

ECCC PHOTO

ATTENDS ORIENTATION

Tianna Brown (right) of Forest was among area students who attended the June 7 orientation sessions held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Brown is shown with business technology instructor Judith Hurtt who provided assistance to the incoming freshman in planning her fall semester class schedule. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Thursday, June 26; Wednesday, July 16; and Friday, August 15. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 21. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF June 16, 2008

Carter attends orientation

CBeverly Carter (center) of Louisville was among area students who attended the June 7 orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Carter, who was accompanied to the session by her son, Rashad Triplett (left), is shown receiving assistance from associate degree nursing instructor Wendy Moore in planning her fall semester class schedule. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Thursday, June 26; Wednesday, July 16; and Friday, August 15. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 21. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF June 16, 2008

Receive Mississippi Association of Supervisors Scholarships

Recipients of the 2008 Mississippi Association of Supervisors Scholarships at East Central Community College in Decatur and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) Tabatha Shay Adcock, Neshoba Central; Brittany Cameron, Morton; Kayla Dewberry, Nanih Waiya; Ashley Dumas, Newton County; and Danielle Knotts, Nanih Waiya; and (standing, from left) Will McBeth, Leake Academy; Cody Walters, Forest; and Jodie Walters, Union. Also pictured and representing the district supervisors are Charles Moulds (standing, second from right), president of the Newton County Board of Supervisors, and Harold Reynolds (standing, right), president of the Neshoba County Board of Supervisors. Recipients not pictured are Tiffany Lowery, Sebastopol High School, and Emily Pace, Newton County High School. These scholarships were established in 1996 by the State Association of Supervisors. The awards were presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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NEWTON RECORD X

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THE PHILADELPHIAN X

WEEK OF June 16, 2008

Time to sign up

Triplett Registers For ECCC Classes

Precious Triplett (right) of Louisville was among area students who attended the June 7 orientation session at East Central Community College in Decatur. Triplett is shown with Lucille Wood, physical education and education instructor, who provided assistance to the incoming freshman in planning her fall semester class schedule. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Thursday, June 26; Wednesday, July 16; and Friday, August 15. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 21. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

Orientation / enrollment

WEEK OF June 9, 2008

record numbers at EC

"We are obviously very pleased with the record turnout for our first orientation session of the summer," Killens stated.

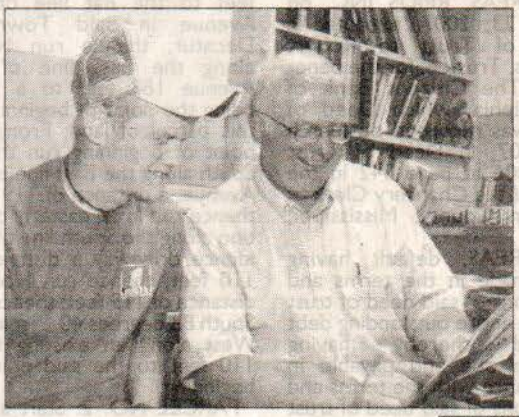
East Central recently announced that tuition will remain at $700 per semester. The College is also providing Internet and cable TV services for dormitory students.

Additional orientation sessions will be held Thursday, June 26; Wednesday, July 16; and Friday, August 15.

Fall classes begin Thursday, August 21.

For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

Ethan Dollar (right), a 2008 graduate of Union High School, was among area students who attended the May 30 Orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Helping him prepare his fall class schedule is ECCC mathematics instructor Haywood Reeves. (Photo)



Adam McLemore (left), a 2008 graduate of Sebastopol High School, was among area students who attended the May 30 Orientation session held at East Central. Helping him prepare his fall class schedule is ECCC machine shop technology instructor Danny Gressett.

Brian Felton (left), a 2008 graduate of Newton County High School, was among area students who attended the May 30 Orientation session held at East Central. Helping him prepare his fall class schedule is ECCC oral communication instructor Kate Keenan.

APPEARED IN:

Students turn out in

A record 384 students attended orientation activities held Friday, May 30 at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Joe Killens, vice president for student services.

Killens said the record number surpassed the previous mark of 329 students who attended orientation on June 1, 2007. Enrollment reached 2428 students during the 2007 fall semester.

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er (left), a 2008 graduate of Winston Academy, was among area students who 30 Orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Help-er fall class schedule is ECCC English instructor Pam Fowler. (Center left) Jaq-ft), a 2008 graduate of Noxapater High School, prepares her fall class schedule e instructor Sharon LeJeune. (Center, right) Denetra Darden (right), a 2008 gradu-ya, prepares her fall class schedule with ECCC history instructor Marc McCool. ng (left), a 2008 graduate of Winston Academy, prepares his fall class schedule mics instructor Wanda Hurley. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Sat-ursday, June 26; Wednesday, July 16; and Friday, August 15. Fall classes begin 21. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or -462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

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CCC orientation

WEEK OF June 9, 2008

ECCC PHOTO

ATTENDS ECCC ORIENTATION

Shana Bishop (right), a 2008 graduate of Morton High School, was among area students who attended the May 30 Orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Helping her prepare her fall class schedule is ECCC music instructor Vicki Blaylock. In addition to registering for fall classes, students can learn about the various opportunities available on the EC campus. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Thursday, June 26; Wednesday, July 16; and Friday, August 15. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 21. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF June 6, 2008

ECCC Announces Spring Semester Honor Roll

Students named to the 2008 spring semester honor roll, which includes those selected to the President's List, Dean's List and Honorable Mention List, have been announced at East Central Community College in Decatur, according to Donna Luke, Director of Admissions, Records and Research.

Those named to the President's List, students with a 4.0 grade point average, include the following:

FOREST: Bethany Nicole Autry, Brittany Jade Cushman, Matthew E. Harmon, Chris W. Harrison, Krista Ann Phillips and Caitlin Michelle Slay;

LAKE: Joseph Thomas Ciegło, Lauryn Bethany Laird and Jason Richard

MORTON: Adrienne Marie Bird, Tiffany Ann Carpenter, Timothy P. Phillipson and Anne McDonald Strohm;

PULASKI: Christopher H. Parkman;

The Dean's List includes the following students who achieved a 3.5 or above grade point average:

FOREST: Brent Allen Barton, Marty Ann Bergin, Keith Walter Brown, Kristen Magan Chamblee, Sermantha Rena Clark, Haley R. Culpepper, Josh David Ledford, Gary David Mart, Tanika S. Robinson, Angela Marie Slack, Eliska Andito Slaughter, Tyler Dennis Walters and Jason M. Weatherford;

LAKE: Brandi Renee Gray, Keith J. Hollingsworth, Dollye Bilbro Packer, Shasta Lashae Shelley and Leeana E. Stiltner;

LUDLOW: Marcus Dequan Lee;

MORTON: Amneris Avalos, Candice Laine Ezell, Buford Glynn Hannah Jr., Jana Floy Johnson, Amber Brooke McCaughn and Carli Nicole O'Steen;

PULASKI: Autumn N. Westbrook;

SEBASTOPOL: Kimberly Shea Norman;

The following students were named to the Honorable Mention List and earned a 3.0 or above grade point average:

FOREST: Ashleyanne K. Berthelette, Jessica Danielle Brown, Mindy Ann Carr, Rebecca Marie Coonce, Hannah Brooke Culpepper, Jimmy Paul Easterling, Brittany Roshae Gray, Leslie A. Hollingsworth, Kimberly Michelle James, Juanita Jones, James Bradley Morrison, April Nikole Ormond, Courtney K. Patrick, Mckenzie R. Patrick, James Ryan Reeves, Matthias Colby Sharpe, Nicholas Cody Shaw, Courtney A. Stingley, Courtney D. Townsend, Matthew Ryan Wade, Marcus D. Warnsley, Janet Williams and Loretta Devine Young;

LAKE: Santigous N. Culpepper, Freshta Violet Ejlali-Razmi, Margo Dewayne Everett, Jennifer L. Hollingsworth, Christopher Dent Kelly, Melanie Lynn Stroud, Brian Michael Waltman, Cherith Brook Wooten and Emily Michele Wynne;

MORTON: Jenna Delane Hatch, Robert Dillon Heggins, Victoria A Hodge, Bethany Susan Latham, Austin Lee Lloyd, Stacee Lynn McCurdy, Hilary Zane Mouchett, Corey Lynn Shoemaker, Jon Aaron Tatum and Daniel M. Walker;

PULASKI: Anna Catherine Hughes.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF June 6, 2008

East Central CC tells spring honor rosters

East Central Community College has released its honor roster for the 2008 spring semester, which includes those selected to the President's List, Dean's List and Honorable Mention List, according to Donna Luke, Director of Admissions, Records and Research.

President's List students are those with a 4.0 grade point average and include the following from the readership area:

Lynette Eda Bell, Erica Lee Dowell, Alexandra Lee Harris, Britni Leigh Harvey, Lacy Leigh McMurry, Brenda Harrell Shirley and Katherine E. Taylor, all of Carthage;

Cheryl Lynn Dowell, Courtney Nicole Elkins and Patricia Alene Vasquez, all of Lena; and

Jeremy Martin Corley, Walnut Grove.

Dean's List studentsare those who achieved a 3.5 or above grade point average and include the following from the readership area:

Lucy Diane Burns, Nellie M. Crenshaw, Gwendolyn Mavis Crumbley, Kasey Sue Crutcher, Brandie Nicole Davis, Aaron Patrick Mann, Brandon Trey McNeece, Virginia Ruth Mitchell, Deanna C. Morris, Garnell Denise Moses, Ashley Nicole Pigg, Olivia Lauren Scott, Melanie Ann Thomas and Trisha Nicole White, all of Carthage;

Christopher S. Clark, David Dallas Harrell, Brittany Lanae Harrison and Mark Bradley Latham, all of Lena;

Marcus Dequan Lee, Ludlow; James Patrick Johnson, Madden; and Kimberly Shea Norman, Sebastopol;

Honorable mention students are those with a 3.0 or above grade point average and include the following from the readership area:

Tyler Allen Adcock, Pamela Renee Boone, Brian Adam Byrd, Haley E. Chipley, Tommy Gene Deason, India L. Dickerson, Trenee Edwards-Giles, Brandon Kyle Estes, Chassidy Douglas Evans, Shantie Fortune,

Kristi Gwin Hardin, Britney Jaide Horn, Courtney Rachelle Ingram, Brantley James Ingram, Dorie Danielle Jenkins, Cristen Shalane Jones, Sherry Lynn Kelly, Christina M. McKay. Justin Steve Moore, Cody Aaron Mulley, Kendrick V. Nichols, Mallory Rebecca Parker,

Allison N. Phillips, Barry Lee Pope, Charlotte R. Roland, Anthony Kyle Sanders, Michael C. Sanford, Constance Diane Savell, Christopher C. Searcy, Jennifer Leah Sistrunk,

Rebecca Carol Wilbanks, Julie Wilbanks, Akair Danielle Wilder, Emily Dianne Wooten, Kerrie Beth Wooten, Shelley R. Wright and Jason Tywan Yarbrough, all of Carthage;

Vincent Wayne Wilson and William Baster York, both of Choctaw; Dianne A. Boyd, Tyeshai Shuntae Ealy, Chad O. Rhinewalt and Adam Christopher Wade, all of Lena; and

Mary E. Brooke Dove, Haley Marie Fisher and Kristen Denise May, all of Walnut Grove.

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF June 6, 2008

Receive ECCC 'Special' Awards

These students received "special" awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 1 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include (seated, from left) Brookes Mayes of Newton, citizenship and ECCC Players award; Kylie Rigdon of Union, The Tom Tom newspaper award; Kyle Barrett of Decatur, concert choir; Amber Griffin of Carthage, Gospel Choir; Annie Strohm of Morton, East Central Environmental Club and freshman mathematics; and Whitnee White of Philadelphia, Richard Fisher Organic Chemistry Award; and (back row, from left) Megan Munn of Decatur, Kappa Kappa Iota, Alyne Simmons Recruitment Grant and Lucille Wood Scholarship; Robin McBeath of Union, freshman mathematics; Daniel Johnson of Union, freshman mathematics and S. Lebrun Hutchison Engineering Award; Alexandra Harris of Carthage, sophomore mathematics and secondary education; and Tyler Walters of Forest, sophomore mathematics. Not pictured is Rashan Jackson of Newton, Gospel Choir. (EC Photo)

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF June 4, 2008

ECCC announces members of Ac'cents Show Choir

East Central Community College show choir director Vicki Blaylock recently announced those who were selected members of the 2008-09 Ac'cents during auditions held at the end of the spring term.

Students selected and their respective high schools include sopranos Tiffany Spence of Newton County, Casey Rowzee of Newton County Academy and Holly Webb of Forest; altos Erica Ervin of Sebastopol, Emilee Lanier of Newton County and Carmen Hardy of Meridian; tenors Lane Fulton and Brandon Hughes, both of Newton County, and Aaron Mann of Carthage; and basses Cody Strait, Drew Harrison and Kyle Barrett, all of Newton County.

The Ac'cents perform for various civic and community clubs in the five-county district and also present a campus concert each semester.

For more information contact Blaylock at 601-635-6225. The email address is vblaylock@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF June 2, 2003

Locals chosen for ECCC Centralettes

Members of the East Central Community College Centralettes, the danceline for the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band, were recently selected during tryouts held on the Decatur campus, announced Thomas W. Carson, director of bands.

Those selected and their respective high schools include Tiffany Thomas and Alison Lowery, both of Winston Academy; Lacey McMurray and Erica Dowell, both of Edinburg; Becky Culpepper and Brooke Culpepper, both of Scott Central; Candi Vance, Nicole Dunavant and Savanna Smith, all of Newton County; Denetra Dardin, Kimberly Blackwell, Lauren Luke and Anna Fulton, all of Nanih Waiya; Jessica Gallloway, Krystle Wolverton, Lana Adkins and Anna Johnson, all of Union; Leigh Rentz and Amber Madison, both of Neshoba Central; Brooke Robinson of Quitman, Jacqlene Robinson of Noxapater, Bailey Brown of East Rankin Academy and Hannah Watkins of Sebastopol.

Nicole Hillman serves as sponsor.

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Winston County Journal ✓

WEEK OF June 2, 2008

Locals named to ECCC Cheerleaders

East Central Community College recently announced members of the 2008-2009 football and basketball cheerleading squad. They were selected during tryouts held on the Decatur campus.

Those chosen and their respective high schools include Dakota Anthony of Neshoba Central, Anna Munn, Kacy Covert, Erin Huffman and Matt Naylor, all of West Lauderdale; Abby McMillan, Anna Williams and Daniel Steverson, all of Newton County Academy; Emily Thrash of Sebastopol, Kayla Adcock of Winston Academy, Juley Taylor of East Rankin Academy, Adrienne McDill, Jonathan Federick and Austin Crouther (mascot), all of Newton County; Will Emmons of Lake and Kolby Sisson of Noxapater.

Huellen Watson serves as sponsor.

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Winston County Journal ✓

WEEK OF June 2, 2008

ECCC's NJCAA Academic All-Americans

East Central Community College athletes who excelled in the classroom during 2007-08 have been recognized by the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA). Three student athletes achieved a perfect 4.0 grade point average and were named Distinguished Academic All-Americans, which includes those achieving a 3.80 GPA or better on a 4.0 scale for 45 semester hours or 60 quarter hours. Honorees and their respective sports area include (seated from left) Whitnee White (softball) of Philadelphia, Dru Anderson (tennis) of Decatur, and Joseph Cieglo (tennis) of Forest. Named NJCAA Academic All-Americans — students with at least a 3.60 GPA — include (seated at right) Jana Johnson (soccer) of Chunky, and (standing) Julie Gaines (tennis) of Philadelphia, Robert Westbrook (baseball) of Little Rock, and Fredrick Lyons (football) and Chelsey Vincent (soccer), both of Decatur. Not pictured is Jeffery Grimshel (soccer) of Vicksburg. Student-athletes who receive NJCAA Academic All-American honors must have completed three semesters of college work and participated in at least one athletic season on the varsity level. Honorees will be featured in an upcoming issue of the NJCAA publication, *JUCO Review*.

ECCC photo

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF June 2, 2008

East Central Community College recently announced inductees to the 2008 Hall of Fame, the highest honor a student can receive at the College. They include (seated, from left) Ashley Henley of Hickory and Beth Alexander of Little Rock; and (standing, from left) Julie Gaines of Philadelphia, Jonathan Jackson and Noah Cook, both of Hickory and Dru Anderson of Decatur. The honorees were announced during Awards Day activities held May 1 in Huff Auditorium. Their photos will hang in the Hall of Fame Collection in the lobby of Huff Auditorium.

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WEEK OF June 2, 2008

Roseburg Scholarships awarded

Four area scholarship winners were L to R: Raleigh Middleton, Eupora, Holmes Community College; Elizabeth Ragan, Louisville High School, Ole Miss; Kaylin Jones, Winston Academy, East Central Community College; and Sydney McKnight, Ackerman High School, East Mississippi Community College.

The Sons and Daughters Scholarship Program serves dependents (21 years or younger) of employees of Roseburg Forest Products.

The scholarships are awarded to students who are planning to attend an accredited college or vocational school in the United States. Two students from Winston County earned the awards. Elizabeth Ragan a graduate of Louisville High School who plans to attend Ole Miss and Kaylin Jones a graduate of Winston Academy who plans to attend East Central Community College were selected for the scholarships. Two other area students were selected which included Raleigh Middleton, of Eupora High School who plans to attend Holmes Community College and Sydney McKnight of Ackerman High School who plans to attend East Mississippi Community College.

The number of recipients varies each year. The award can be renewed annually for up to four years of undergraduate study.

Scholarship award amounts for the Sons and Daughters Program depend on the type of college the recipient is attending. An award amount of $3,000 each academic year is made to recipients attending two-year colleges. At four-year colleges, a scholarship recipient receives $5,000 each academic year.

There were 76 of these scholarships awarded in 2008. 24 of those were in the South to students in MS, GA and SC, states where the parents are employed.

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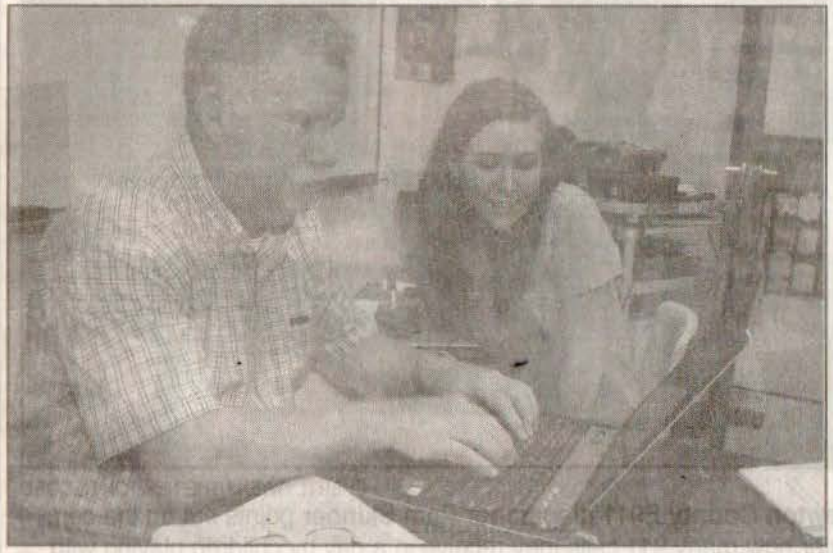
WEEK OF June 3, 2008

EC orientation draws record number



ECCC PHOTO

Adrienne McDill (right), a 2008 graduate of Newton County High School, was among area students who attended the May 30 Orientation session held at East Central in Decatur. Helping her prepare her fall class schedule is ECCC physics instructor Billy Miles.

Submitted to The Record

A record 384 students attended orientation activities held Friday, May 30 at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Joe Killens, vice president for student services.

Killens said the record number surpassed the previous mark of 329 students who attended orientation on June 1, 2007. Enrollment reached 2428 students during the 2007 fall semester.

"We are obviously very pleased with the record turnout for our first orientation session of the summer," Killens said. "We know the main reason students choose EC is for our academic reputation, and we are doing everything we can to make a college education affordable and accessible for students of all ages."

East Central recently announced that tuition will remain at $700 per semester. The college is also providing Internet and cable TV services for dormitory students.

Additional orientation sessions will be held Saturday, June 7; Thursday, June 26; Wednesday, July 16; and Friday, August 15.

Fall classes begin Thursday, August 21.

For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is <mailto:jkillens@eccc.edu>jkillens@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

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THE PHILADELPHIAN

WEEK OF June 2, 2008

EC names cheerleaders for 2008-09

East Central Community College recently announced members of the 2008-09 football and basketball cheerleading squad. They were selected during tryouts held on the Decatur campus.

Those chosen and their respective high schools include Dakota Anthony of Neshoba Central, Anna Munn, Kacy Covert, Erin Huffman, and Matt Naylor, all of West Lauderdale; Abby McMillan, Anna Williams and Daniel Steverson, all of Newton County Academy; Emily Thrash of Sebastopol, Kayla Adcock of Winston Academy, Juley Taylor of East Rankin Academy, Adrienne McDill, Jonathan Federick and Austin Crouther (mascot), all of Newton County; Will Emmons of Lake, and Kolby Sisson of Noxapater.

LAKE MESSENGER _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF June 2, 2008

ECCC announces Centralettes

Members of the East Central Community College Centralettes, the danceline for the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band, were recently selected during tryouts held on the Decatur campus, announced Thomas W. Carson, director of bands.

Those selected and their respective high schools include Tiffany Thomas and Alison Lower, both of Winston Academy; Lacey McMurry and Erica Dowell, both of Edinburg; Becky Culpepper and Brooke Culpepper, both of Scott Central; Candi Vance, Nicole Dunavant, and Savanna Smith, all of Newton County; Denetra Dardin, Kimberly Blackwell, Lauren Luke, and Anna Fulton, all of Nanih Waiya; Jessica Gallloway, Krystle Wolverton, Lana Adkins, and Anna Johnson, all of Union; Leigh Rentz and Amber Madison, both of Neshoba Central; Brooke Robinson of Quitman, Jacqlene Robinson of Noxapater, Bailey Brown of East Rankin Academy, and Hannah Watkins of Sebastopol.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL X

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF May 26, 2008

CLARION-LEDGER

THE PHILADELPHIAN

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL

SPIRIT OF MORTON

ECCC PHOTO

AWARD-WINNING ECCC PHI BETA LAMBDA STUDENTS

East Central Community College students took top honors in numerous categories at the State Phi Beta Lambda Leadership Conference held recently in Tupelo. East Central placed first in 11 events, finished second in five categories, had four third-place award winners and posted six fourth-place finishes. Theta Chi chapter was also selected as one of two Gold Seal Chapters in Mississippi and was recognized as a Foundation member. In addition, the ECCC chapter placed second in raising funds for the March of Dimes. The award-winning students include (seated from left) Angela Valentine of Hickory, first place, Community Service Project and fourth, Marketing Analysis and Decision Making; Leslie Hollingsworth of Forest, first place, Community Service Project; Brooke Barrett of Sebastopol, first, Partnership with Business Project and third, Financial Concepts; Brookes Mayes of Newton, first, Small Business Management Plan; third, Future Business Teacher; state recipient of the prestigious Rufus T. Jones Scholarship and Who's Who in Phi Beta Lambda; Carlos Rice of Louisville, first place in Parliamentary Procedure and Small Business Plan; Josh Dickerson of Union, first in Parliamentary Procedure and Small Business Management and was elected State Parliamentarian; Drew Harrison of Little Rock, first, Parliamentary Procedures; Leslie Nash of Union, first in Parliamentary Procedure and Local Chapter Business Report, and selected for Who's Who in Phi Beta Lambda; and Laura Pearson of Louisville, first in Human Resource Management and Parliamentary Procedure; and (standing from left) Shaun Cooper of Decatur, first in Computer Applications and Word Processing; William Cumberland of Philadelphia, first, Computer Concepts and second, Network Design; Evan Summers-Jones of Walnut Grove, second, Network Design; Jonathan Federick of Hickory, second, Statistical Analysis and third, Client Service; Brett Latimer of Philadelphia, second, Telecommunications and fourth, Networking Concepts; Dollye Packer of Lake, second, E-business and fourth, Job Interview; and Dexter McDonald of Jackson, first in Human Resource Management and Sports Management and Marketing. Not pictured are Sabra Fortenberry of Union, first, American Enterprise Project and second, E-business; Britni Wright of Louisville, second, Financial Concepts and fourth, Desktop Publishing; Delynn Agee of Choctaw, third, Justice Administration and fourth, Desktop Publishing; Tyrell Satcher of Pachuta, fourth in Information Management and Justice Administration; and Terry Smith of Louisville, selected Who's Who in Phi Beta Lambda. Seventeen students qualify for the National Phi Beta Lambda Leadership Conference scheduled June 21-24 in Atlanta. Phi Beta Lambda is the premier Business Education Association preparing students for careers in business and success in life. Its purpose is to foster a better relationship between one another and to cultivate a better understanding of business principles in general.

WEEK OF May 26, 2008

ECCC student named 'New Century Scholar'

East Central Community College sophomore Beth Alexander of Little Rock displays a certificate she received for being named a New Century Scholar in recognition of her success in the All-USA Academic Team competition. Alexander scored the highest grade on the exam and received a $2,000 stipend funded by the Coca-Cola Foundation and the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation. She officially received the honor at the American Association of Community Colleges convention held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 5-7. Alexander was earlier named to the 2008 All-Mississippi Academic First Team and received a $1,000 stipend to continue her education. She most recently was selected on the All-USA Academic Third Team for Community and Junior Colleges. The All-Mississippi Academic Team is coordinated by the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges, Mississippi State Board for Community and Junior College and The Clarion-Ledger. Alexander serves as president of ECCC's Theta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. Among officials shown with Alexander are Rod Risley (far left), PTK executive director. (Photo by Barrett Photography of Madison, MS).

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WEEK OF May 26, 2008

ECCC students receive Mississippi College scholarships

These East Central Community College students received various transfer scholarships to Mississippi College in Clinton, which were presented during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 1 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Scholarship recipients include (from left) Dru Anderson of Decatur, Kenzie Gaines of Philadelphia, Ruby Crew of Florence and Joshua Sheehan of Little Rock. Also pictured is MC representative Brandi Brown who made the presentations. Not pictured, but also receiving scholarships, are Kory Culpepper of Union and Charles Worrell of Kosciusko.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF May 19, 2008

ECCC MUW scholarship recipients

East Central Community College students Kayla Coward (left) of Noxapater and Laura Burt (center) of Louisville received transfer scholarships to Mississippi University for Women, which were presented during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 1 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. At right is Brandi Watkins, MUW representative, who made the presentations. Not pictured, but also receiving scholarships, are Kristin Hall of Louisville, Matthew Harmon of Forest, Hunter Hayes and Suzanne Henry, both of Decatur; Katie Warren of Union and Jessica Yarbrough of Louisville.

APPEARED IN:

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ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVE ECCC TECHNICAL AWARDS

These students received technical awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 1 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include (seated, from left) Jaimie Brown of Meridian and Travis Jordan of Pelahatchie, collision repair; Justin Vernon of Louisville, automotive; Lillie Wash of Newton, early childhood education; and MacKenzie Kangas of Collinsville, computer; and (back row, from left) Joseph Downing of Philadelphia, heating and air conditioning; Angela Carter of Philadelphia, hotel/restaurant management; Justin Rushing of Union, machine shop; and Dollye Packer of Lake, Technical Student of the Year. Not pictured are James Johnson of Madden, electrical; Kyle Wolfe of Lake, electronic; and Austin Gamblin of Lena, network support.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN X

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES X 2

UNION APPEAL

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL X

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WEEK OF May 19, 2008

ECCC Alumni Memorial Award recipients

These students received Alumni Memorial awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 1 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include (from left) Joshua Lafferty of Quitman, Billy Wayne Baucum Secondary Education; Dollye Packer of Lake, Ruth Carr-Vincent Award for Academic Excellence in Nontraditional Education; Reagan Joyner of Philadelphia, Alatha Chaney English; Heath Street of Lake, W. A. Coursey, Jr., Engineering; Kim Foy of Philadelphia, Sara Carr Deaton Business Technology; and Tyler Hansford of Union, Sue Yarbrough Fulgham Speech; and (back row, from left) Justin Boone of Louisville, William S. Giffin Men's Intramural; Noah Cook of Hickory, Danny Ray Killens Engineering; Beth Alexander of Little Rock, Jack B. Mayo Phi Theta Kappa; Courtney Elkins of Lena, Dr. Edwin Miller Medical Services; Fredrick Lyons of Decatur, Andrew F. Webb Football; and Sidney Gutierrez of Chunky, Thomas W. Thrash Memorial. Not pictured are Sandra Whitman of Louisville, Opal McMullan Dickerson Elementary Education; Bryan Davis of Newton and Queena Gage of Forest, Homer F. Hunter Award for Athletic Managers; Karl Robinson of Jackson, Howard Sessums Men's Basketball; and Tenesha Brown of Jackson, Earline Wood Women's Basketball.

APPEARED IN:

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

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WEEK OF May 19, 2008

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC STUDENTS RECEIVE MSU SCHOLARSHIPS: These East Central Community College students received various transfer scholarships to Mississippi State University, which were presented during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 1 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Scholarship recipients include (seated from left) Travis Page and Matthew Anthony, both of Philadelphia; Noah Cook of Hickory, Drew Gillis of Decatur and Brookes Mayes of Newton; and (back row, from left Tharin McNichols of Union, Robert Westbrook of Little Rock, Brooke White of Florence and Amber Eaves of Louisville. Also pictured is MSU representative Heath Barrett who make the scholarship presentations. Also receiving scholarships, but not pictured, are Tiffany Carpenter and Candice Ezell, both of Morton; Trenton Cockrell and Tyler McCool, both of Louisville; Caitlin Harper, Hunter Hayes, Whitney Knight and Chelsey Vincent, all of Decatur; Lorie Jenkins, Mallory Parker and Jennifer Sistrunk, all of Carthage; Jana Johnson, Chunky; Lauryn Laird, Lake; John Little and Matthew Mason, both of Newton; Robby Pierce, Lawrence; Corey Sharp, Philadelphia; Kass Sharp, Little Rock; Elizabeth Thorne, Noxapater.; and Charles Worrell, Kosciusko.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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WEEK OF May 19, 2008

ECCC PHOTO

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT MAEGAN JOHNSTON (LEFT) OF DECATUR was recently awarded the a transfer scholarship to the University of Mississippi. Joe Killens (right), ECCC Vice President for Student Services, made the presentation during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 1 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Also receiving Ole Miss scholarships, but not pictured, are Tyler Walters and Keith Brown, both of Forest. Students receiving transfer scholarships to the University of Mississippi Medical Center are Marty Ann Bergin of Forest and Cheryl Dowell of Lena.

APPEARED IN:

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UNION APPEAL X

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WEEK OF May 19, 2008

Area athletes honored at ECCC spring awards program

Alex Deason

Julie Gaines

Various honors were presented to members of East Central Community College's spring sports teams during the annual awards program held May 5 on the Decatur campus.

ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and respective team coaches presented awards.

Receiving honors in baseball were Robert Westbrook of Little Rock, scholar athlete; Brian Jones of Scottsville, Ky., most valuable player and most valuable pitcher; Jack Edmonson of Louisville, most improved; and Josh Lafferty of Quitman, Jamie Clark Warrior Award. Lafferty, Chris Parkman of Pulaski and Jacob Casey of Union received team captain honors.

The Diamond Warriors are led by head coach Neal Holliman and assistants Michael Avalon and Roberto Martinez.

Recipients of awards in women's basketball included Tawaytha Evans of Newton, scholar athlete; Tenesha Brown of Jackson, most valuable offensive player, third team NJCAA All-American, All-Region 23 and MACJC All-State; Chotsani Henderson of Newton, most valuable defensive player; Allison Phillips of Carthage, most improved; Jordan Patterson of Aberdeen, hustle award; and Rashima Jenkins of Bossier City, La., Lady Warrior Award and All-Region 23.

The Lady Warrior team was also recognized for winning the Region 23 Tournament and advancing to the NJCAA Women's Basketball Championship in Salina, Kansas.

Bill Smith serves as Lady Warrior head coach and Blessing Chekwa is his assistant.

In men's basketball, award winners were Karl Robinson of Jackson, scholar athlete; Josh Luckett of Carthage, most valuable offensive player; Rod Lofton of Forest, most valuable defensive player; Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Hickory, most improved player; Mark Wilson of Delhia, La., hustle award; and Darron Maxtion of Ardmore, Ala., Warrior Award.

Maurice Bowie serves as head coach and Brandon Cornelius is his assistant.

In golf, Alex Deason of Philadelphia received the scholar athlete award and was recognized for having the lowest scoring average during competition. Chase Ward of Sylacauga, Ala., was recognized for making the All-Tournament Team at the ECCC Invitational held at Forest Country Club.

James Moore serves as head coach.

Receiving awards in fast-pitch softball were Whitnee White of Philadelphia, scholar athlete, most outstanding offensive player, team captain award and first team All-State; Shenique Brass of Philadelphia, most valuable player, team captain award, first team All-State, first team All-Division; Sondreia Hill of Union, most outstanding defensive player, team captain award, first team All-State and first team All-Division; Codee Russell of Madden and Amber Smith of Union, most outstanding pitchers and second team All-Division; Lindsey Stevens of Decatur, Lady Warrior Award and team captain award; Laura Smith of Philadelphia, team captain award; and Haley Chipley of Carthage and Leah Dennis of Philadelphia, second team All-Division.

ECCC photo

These softball players at East Central Community College received various honors at the annual Spring Sports Awards Program held on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Sondreia Hillie of Union, Lindsey Stevens of Decatur, Shenique Brass of Philadelphia and Whitnee White of Philadelphia. Standing from left are Laura Smith of Philadelphia, Amber Smith of Union, Leah Dennis of Philadelphia and Codee Russell of Madden.

Scott Hill is head coach and Tiffany Thomas served as his assistant.

In women's tennis, awards were presented to Dru Anderson of Decatur, scholar athlete and most valuable player; Julie Gaines of Philadelphia, team captain; and Cheryl Dowell of Lena, Warrior Award.

Recipients of awards for men's tennis included Keith Brown of Forest, scholar athlete and Warrior Award; Joseph Cieglo, also of Forest, scholar athlete; Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Hickory, most valuable player; and Josh Moore of Newton, team captain.

Kyle Watson and Dianne and Pat O'Neill serve as coaches.

"And who could forget Spring Spree, mid-day naps and cramming for tests at midnight!

"I will look back on pictures and forever remember the wonderful people that I have met at East Central, and how helpful and caring the faculty is. These are the things that I find make an ordinary academic institution exceptional, and in this, EC is up there with the best."

Gaines also reminded graduates "to be flexible to the demands of whatever situation we face, as we now are leaving what has become our comfort zone."

She further commented, "With each new challenge, fear will be inevitable, but it is the way in which these fears are conquered that makes a person grow. We, as graduates, are facing a new venture. Yes, we are going to have troubles along the way, but honestly, where would we all be without them? We must face all thrown at us with confidence, grounded in the wisdom gained through lived in a similar manner? Regardless of the final score, it truly is the small details and the attitude we uphold that are going to matter in the end."

During her closing remarks, Gaines shared a statement by Abraham Lincoln, which included the following message: "....I am not bound to succeed, but I am bound to live up to the light I have....Let us have the faith that makes might, and in that faith, let us, to the end, dare to do our duty as we understand it..."

"We too should have a similar mindset," Gaines remarked. "Like the song performed earlier states, life is made valuable by 'how you live.' Ten years from now, your former teachers and employers may no longer remember your GPA, nor will they necessarily remember what you wore to work or class. It is much more likely that they remember your attitude toward your studies, your peers, and life in general."

She concluded her

Williamson, all of Conehatta; Kelsi Nicole Ables, Jesus Aleman, Ashley Dru Anderson, Yentl Brantley, Sara Anne Bryan, Kizzy Lucinda Caston-Miller, Heather Brittany Garrison, Caitlin L. Harper, Hunter Thomas Hayes, Apryl Suzanne Henry, Sarah Rebecca Henry, Philip DeAnte Jordan, Fredrick F. Lyons, Jr., Andrew David Marshall, Mindy Caral Parker, Colette Russell, Lindsey Brooke Stevens, Vicky Nicole Strait and Chelsey LuAnn Vincent; all of Decatur; Noah Travis Cook, Demetra Dawkins, Ashley Nicole Henley, Jonathan LeShaun Jackson, Rodney Dale Parker Jr., Cody David Pugh, Daniel Steverson and Jennifer Wyatt, all of Hickory; Carole Beth Alexander, George H. Hedgepeth, Tiffany Plummer, Joshua N. Sheehan and Robert Bailey Westbrook, all of Little Rock; Dina Campbell, Allen B. Davis, Andre Ellis, Philip M. Evans, Tawayatha Tanielle Evans, Marvin J. Flucker, Lakeithia Lashell Ford, Drew Morgan Gillis, Robin O'Neal Goodin, Haylee Holden Haralson, Chotsani Henderson, Eric O'Neal

Lance Rice, Christin Marie Stamper, Cynthia Thompson, Skye Nichole Tindall and Lillie H. Wash; all of Newton; Lucy Fulton and Travis R. Page, both of Philadelphia; and Jess Martin Brantley, Nicholas R. Brown, Ashton Carleta Crouther, Melissa Ferguson, Jelessa P. McDonald, Tharin La'Bradford McNichols, Carrie LeAnn Rowzee, Johnna D. Wesley, Sandra White and Chasity Michelle Yates, all of Union;

SCOTT: Shelby D. Shelley, Conehatta; Brent Allen Barton, Marty Ann Bergin, Emmanuel Braggs, Keith Walter Brown, Jimmy Paul Easterling, Jr., Dustin Forsythe, Queena Gage, Matthew Ezekiel Harmon, Derrick R. Harris, Christopher W. Harrison, Kimberly M. James, Jeri Thompson Martin, Emmeral K. McLaurin, Ryan Reeves, Marcia Richardson, Adrian Rodriguez, Sean D. Self, Nicholas Cody Shaw, Matthew Shelley, Terri T. Smith, Courtney Townsend, Clennis Tucker, Tyler Walters, Erin Watkins, Jason Matthew Weatherford, Lacey N. Williams and Loretta L. Young; all of Forest; Joseph Cieglo,

Alexander O. Gray, Keith J. Hollingsworth, Angela Roshelle Moore, Dollye Packer, Brian Michael Waltman and Cherith Brook Wooten; all of Lake; Courtney Nicole Elkins, Austin Gamblin and Kayla Latham; all of Lena; Katherine Ann McDonald; Louin; Marcus Dequan Lee, Ludlow; Amneris Avalos, Tiffany Ann Carpenter, Shirley Denton, Candice Ezell, Buford Glynn Hannah, II, Victoria Hodge, Justin Maurice Lofton, Carli O'Steen, Timothy Paul Phillipson and Daniel Walker; all of Morton; Mary Jeanette Barton, Sebastopol; Anthony Buffington, Sr., Jessica Fugitt and Joseph Andrew Lathem; all of Walnut Grove;

NEWTON: Justin Dwayne Reynolds, Chunky; Brandon Anderson, Conehatta; Corey Spence Gressett, Latasha Narkeyda Hall, James Shelby Hattaway, Theressa Grace Killens and Karen Porter, all of Decatur; Jennifer

Smith and Roxanne Ealy Wilson, both of Hickory; Kimberly Diane Savell, Lake; Jack Anthony Anderson, II, Rustin Scott Godwin, Charles R. Gordon, III,

Char'Dae Knowlin, Durwin P. Lewis, Yasmin A. Nicks, Stephanie Pace, Ronnie Page and Austin Cliff Scoggin, Jr., all of Newton; and Laura M. Hickman, Sean T. McElfish, Todd Terrell and Kerri Shea Withers, all of Union;

SCOTT: Paula Monk John, Carthage; Karen J. Bloodsaw, Kendrah N. Bradford, Jacqueline K. Pace, Derrick Qualls, Bethany Sharp and Ernest W. Spivey, all of Forest; Reshelle Stroud and Kyle Franklin Wolfe, both of Lake; Dianne A. Boyd, Lena; Brooke Harrell, Alicia Nicole Torrence and Tavarius T. Walker, all of Morton; Rhianna Lee Rhodes, Pulaski; and Allyson Brook Easom, Sebastopol;

NEWTON: Pamela Denise Bouler, Kimberly N. Hollingsworth, Cynthia M. Lockett, Ashley Parks, Cynthia Ray and Jerri Sow, all of Decatur; Lourie Mowdy, Hickory; Leslie N. Nester, Lawrence; Sha Parker and Anna L. Smith, both of Little Rock; Stacy McNeil and Genetta L. Taylor, both of Newton; and Morgan Hamm and Shanna McKee, both of Union.

East Central graduates told to strive for best

Julie Gaines recalled "lasting memories" of her two years as a student at East Central Community College in Decatur and challenged fellow graduates of the 2008 Class "to strive to be the best" during her remarks at the College's 79th Commencement held Saturday morning at the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia.

Gaines, an honor graduate and Hall of Fame inductee, thanked instructors "for the knowledge we have gained" as she and her classmates either continue their education or enter the workforce.

The Philadelphia resident admitted what she will remember most about ECCC "does not involve the quadratic equation nor does it have anything to do with subject/verb agreements." She provided a few examples:

"I will remember the way Ms. (Sharon) LeJeune genuinely cared for each one of her students, calling us all by name and teaching us practical knowledge as well as biological sciences.

"I will remember 'Chicken Thursday' and the ice cream machine exploding on me in the cafeteria.

past trials. We have the ability to do amazing things, yet we chain ourselves with fear of failure."

She quoted Romans 5:3-6 as a guide for optimism in times of difficulty:

"...but let us also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope....You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly."

Gaines added, "We can reach our goals, and trials only make us stronger while conversely forcing us to realize that we do need the help of others."

She also stressed the importance of "the beautiful details in life, rather than the hardships," a lesson she learned this spring as a member of the Lady Warrior tennis team.

"Coach (Dianne) McNeill never became angry over the loss of a match," Gaines stated. "She would simply tell us what we did well and what needed to be improved upon. What angered her most was (having) an unsportsman-like attitude. Should not our lives be

remarks by issuing the following challenge to the Class of 2008:

"Strive to be the best teacher, the best coach, the best mechanic, the best nurse or best student that you can possibly be. I challenge you to embrace the best of times, to not fear the best of competitors and to be the best that you can."

In addition to Gaines, other graduating sophomores who participated in program were Jonathan Jackson of Hickory, invocation; Drew Gillis of Decatur; benediction; and vocalists Dru Anderson of Decatur and Ryan Reeves of Forest, who presented the musical selection, "How You Live, Turn Up the Music."

Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, vice president for instruction, presented the approximately 470 candidates for graduation who received diplomas from ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

CANDIDATES FOR MAY GRADUATION

NEWTON: Caleb Scott Frink and Jana Johnson, both of Chunky; Kimberly Denise Anderson, Jill Christine Compton, Ashley Nicole May, Carrie McDonald, Mary Ellen Taylor, Shawntye N. Vaughn and Bryan

EC PHOTO

Above, Julie Gaines of Philadelphia addresses fellow graduates at ECCC's commencement held Saturday morning at the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia. To the right, special music for the commencement program was provided by Ryan Reeves of Forest and Dru Anderson of Decatur, who performed "How You Live, Turn Up The Music."

Kyzar, John Curtis Little, Rhonda Sue May, Brookes Anne Mayes, Joseph M. McDonald, Joshua Webb Moore, Falind C. Pace, David A. Pugh, Kaleb

WEEK OF May 26, 2008

NURSING GRADUATES

Newton Countians receiving ECCC Nursing degree

These students from Newton County completed the two-year associate degree nursing program at East Central Community College and were recognized for their accomplishment at the annual ADN Pinning Ceremony held May 8, 2008, on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Ashley May, Conehatta; Melissa Ferguson, Union; Demetra Dawkins-Allen, Hickory; Johnna Wesley, Union; and Kelsi Ables and Sara Bryan, both of Decatur. Standing from left are Colette Russell, Newton; Sandra White, Union; Nicky Strait, Cynthia Thompson and Dina Campbell, all of Newton; and Carrie McDonald and Ellen Taylor, both of Conehatta. May delivered the graduation address and was recognized as the 2008 Outstanding ADN Student. Faculty member Nan Anderson pinned the 42 graduates who comprise the Class of 2008. Betsy Mann serves as dean of healthcare education.

APPEARED IN:

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Locals Among ECCC Graduates

More than 470 students received diplomas Saturday, May 10, 2008, when East Central Community College held its 79th Commencement beginning at 11 a.m. in the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia.

Included in the total are those who completed degree requirements following the 2007 summer and fall terms, according to Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, Vice President for Instruction.

Those participating in the program include graduating sophomores Jonathan Jackson of Hickory, who will give the invocation; Julie Gaines of Philadelphia, commencement speaker; and Drew Gillis of Decatur, benediction. Dru Anderson of Decatur and Ryan Reeves of Forest will present the musical selection How You Live, Turn Up The Music.

Dr. Sparkman presented candidates for graduation and ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin awarded degrees and certificates to the following:

Shelby D. Shelley, Conehatta; Brent Alen Barton, Marty Ann Bergin, Emmanuel Braggs, Keith Walter Brown, Jimmy Paul Easterling, Jr., Dustin Forsythe, Queena Gage, Matthew Ezekiel Harmon, Derrick R. Harris, Christopher W. Harrison, Kimberly M. James, Jeri Thompson Martin, Emmeral K. McLaurin, Ryan Reeves, Marcia Richardson, Adrian Rodriguez, Sean D. Self, Nicholas Cody Shaw, Matthew Shelley, Terri T. Smith, Courtney Townsend, Clennis Tucker, Tyler Walters, Erin Watkins, Jason Matthew Weatherford, Lacey N. Williams and Loretta L. Young; all of Forest; Joseph Cieglo, Alexander O. Gray, Keith J. Hollingsworth, Angela Roshelle Moore, Dollye Packer, Brian Michael Waltman and Cherith Brook Wooten; all of Lake; Courtney Nicole Elkins, Austin Gamblin and Kayla Latham; all of Lena; Katherine Ann McDonald; Louin; Marcus Dequan Lee, Ludlow; Amneris Avalos, Tiffany Ann Carpenter, Shirley Denton, Candice Ezell, Buford Glynn Hannah, II, Victoria Hodge, Justin Maurice Lofton, Carli O'Steen, Timothy Paul Phillipson and Daniel Walker; all of Morton; Mary Jeanette Barton, Sebastopol; Anthony Buffington, Sr., Jessica Fugitt and Joseph Andrew Lathem; all of Walnut Grove.

December 2007 graduates included:

Paula Monk John, Carthage; Karen J. Bloodsaw, Kendrah N. Bradford, Jacqueline K. Pace, Derrick Qualls, Bethany Sharp and Ernest W. Spivey, all of Forest; Reshelle Stroud and Kyle Franklin Wolfe, both of Lake; Dianne A. Boyd, Lena; Brooke Harrell, Alicia Nicole Torrence and Tavarius T. Walker, all of Morton; Rhianna Lee Rhodes, Pulaski; and Allyson Brook Easom, Sebastopol.

August 2007 graduates included:

Ashley Leann Crimm, Jordan T. Gibbs, Tery Dwain Higginbotham, Audrey C. Neal and Brittany Reed, all of Forest; Mary Gretchen Stubbs, Greenwood; Ann Colbert, Miranda Jill Hines and Kristy Michelle Youngblood, all of Lake; Myrtle Renee Johnson and Kenya Roselynn Singleton, both of Morton; and Heather B. Richardson and Amber B. Tatum, both of Pulaski.

APPEARED IN:
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Pinning ceremony held for ECCC's ADN graduates

K OF May 19, 2008

Forty-two students completed the two-year associate degree nursing program at East Central Community College and were recognized at the annual ADN Pinning Ceremony held May 8, 2008, on the Decatur campus.

Members of the Class of 2008 include the following:

Leake County: Amantha Roberson, Shelley Wright, Tracie Harrell Wilson, Kristi Ellis, Chasity Odom McDill and Beth Dorman Perkins, all of Carthage.

Neshoba County: Katrina Patie-Stribling, Abby Yates, Julie Holley, Jana Sansing, Tiah York, Contesha Clemons, Gillian Poole, Nicole Land, Rachel Chappell, Corby Callahan and DeAna Morrow, all of Philadelphia; and Jessica Culpepper, Union.

Newton County: Ashley May, Carrie McDonald and Ellen Taylor, all of Conehatta; Melissa Ferguson, Johnna Wesley and Sandra White, all of Union; Demetra-Dawkins Allen, Hickory; Kelsi Ables and Sara Bryan, both of Decatur; and Colette Russell, Cynthia Thompson and Dina Campbell, all of Newton. May delivered the graduation address and was recognized as the 2008 Outstanding ADN Student.

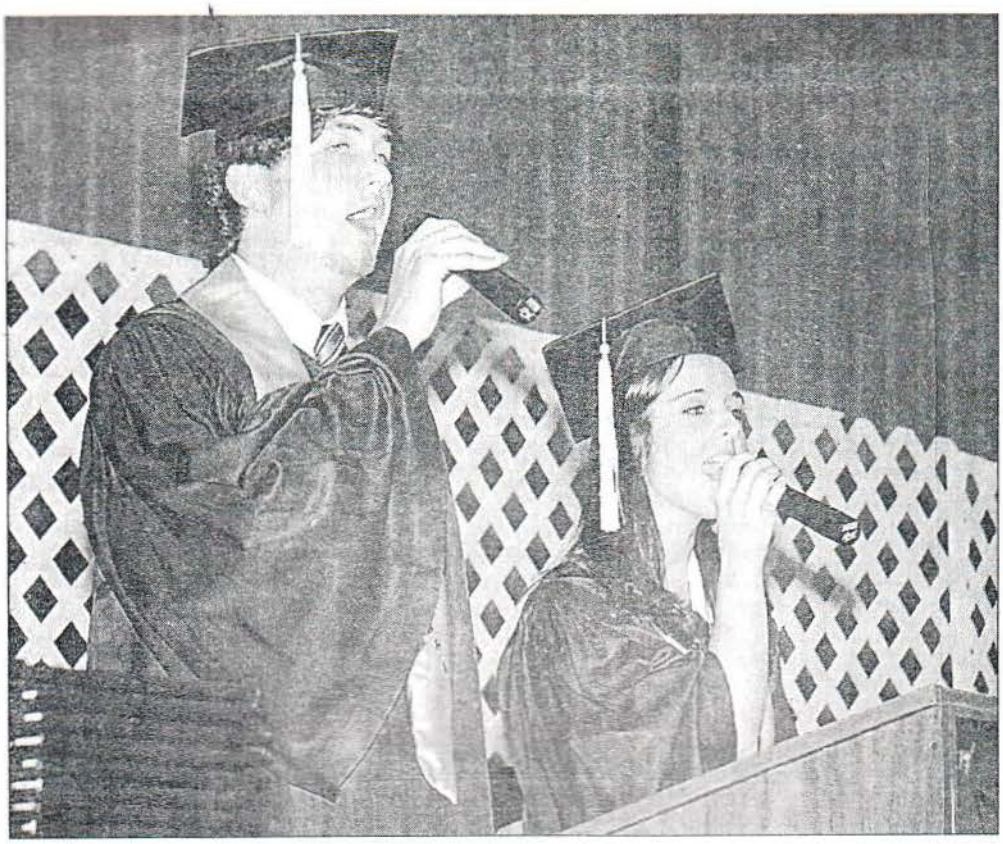
Scott County: Lacey Williams, Jeri Martin, Courtney Townsend and Sean Self, all of Forest; Haley Fisher and Mary Barton, both of Sebastopol; Brian Waltman, Lake; and Shirley Denton and Daniel Walker, both of Morton.

Out-of-District: India Curry, Bay Springs; and Stephanie Reeves, Preston.

Faculty member Nan Anderson pinned the graduates.

Betsy Mann serves as dean of healthcare education.

For more information regarding ECCC's Associate Degree Nursing Program contact Betsy Mann, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 294. The email address is bmann@eccc.edu.



TURN UP THE MUSIC

Ryan Reeves of Forest and Dru Anderson of Decatur present the musical selection "How You Live, Turn Up the Music" during East Central Community College's 79th commencement ceremony held Saturday, May 10, in the Neshoba County Coliseum.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR X

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF May 19, 2008

'Pin' recipients

These students from Leake County completed the two-year associate degree nursing program at East Central Community College and were recognized for their accomplishment at the annual ADN Pinning Ceremony held May 8 on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (seated from left) Amantha Roberson, Shelley Wright and Traci Harrell Wilson, and (standing from left) Kristi Ellis, Chasity Odom McDill and Beth Dorman Perkins, all of Carthage. Faculty member Nan Anderson pinned the 42 graduates who comprise the Class of 2008. Betsy Mann serves as dean of health-care education.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN X

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF May 19, 2008

Neshoba Countians Receiving ECCC Nursing Degree

These students from Neshoba County completed the two-year associate degree nursing program at East Central Community College and were recognized for their accomplishment at the annual ADN Pinning Ceremony held May 8, 2008, on the Decatur campus.

Seated from left are Katrina Patie-Stribling, Abby Yates, Julie Holley, Jana Sansing and Tiah York, all of Philadelphia. Standing from left are Contesha Clemons and Gillian Poole, both of Philadelphia; Jessica Culpepper, Union; and Nicole Land, Rachel Chappell and Corby Callahan, all of Philadelphia. Not pictured is graduate DeAna Morrow of Philadelphia. Faculty member Nan Anderson pinned the 42 graduates who comprise the Class of 2008. Betsy Mann serves as dean of healthcare education.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN X

More than 470 students were candidates for graduation on Saturday, May 10, 2008, when East Central Community College held its 79th Commencement in the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia.

Included in the total were those who completed degree requirements following the 2007 summer and fall terms, according to Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, Vice President for Instruction.

Those participating in the program included graduating sophomores Jonathan Jackson of Hickory, who gave the invocation; Julie Gaines of Philadelphia, commencement speaker; and Drew Gillis of Decatur, benediction. Dru Anderson of Decatur and Ryan Reeves of Forest presented the musical selection "How You Live, Turn Up The Music."

Dr. Sparkman presented candidates for graduation and ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin awarded degrees and certificates. Candidates included:

Candidates for May 2008 graduation:
Mississippi: (by county)

Attala: Demondrick Terrell Allen, Kristopher K. McDill and Charles Jonathan Worrell, all of Koscuisko;

Clarke: Joshua Nathanial Lafferty, Quitman;

Hinds: Tenesha Ulonda Brown, Karl I. Robinson and Spencer Alan Spane, all of Jackson;

Holmes: Jacob Ryne Casey, Goodman;

Jasper: India Yaschia Curry and Nicole G. Peppers-Crosby, both of Bay Springs; Mark Andrew Ishee, Jr. and Elaina Marie James, both of Louin; and Ross Tew, Stringer;

Lauderdale: MacKenzie Rae Kangas, Collinsville; Jennifer Remington Jones, Marion;

Noxubee: Jordan Leigh Taylor, Macon;

Oktibbeha: Terrell Arnand Hendrix, Starkville;

Rankin: Casey Yolanda Fitch Randolph, Brandon; Ruby Elizabeth Crew and Brooke Kyomi White, both of Florence; Katrinna Shea Bailey, Lena; and Travis A. Jordan, Pelahatchie;

Scott: Shelby D. Shelley, Conehatta; Brent Allen Barton, Marty Ann Bergin, Emmanuel Braggs, Keith Walter Brown, Jimmy Paul Easterling, Jr., Dustin Forsythe, Queena Gage, Matthew Ezekiel Harmon, Derrick R. Harris, Christopher W. Harrison, Kimberly M. James, Jeri Thompson Martin, Emmeral K. McLaurin, Ryan Reeves, Marcia Richardson, Adrian Rodriguez, Sean D. Self, Nicholas Cody Shaw, Matthew Shelley, Terri T. Smith, Courtney Townsend, Clennis Tucker, Tyler Walters, Erin Watkins, Jason Matthew Weatherford, Lacey N. Williams and Loretta L. Young; all of Forest; Joseph Cieglo, Alexander O. Gray, Keith J. Hollingsworth, Angela Roshelle Moore, Dollye Packer, Brian Michael Waltman and Cherith Brook Wooten; all of Lake; Courtney Nicole Elkins, Austin Gamblin and Kayla Latham; all of Lena; Katherine Ann McDonald; Louin; Marcus Dequan Lee, Ludlow; Amneris Avalos, Tiffany Ann Carpenter, Shirley Denton, Candice Ezell, Buford Glynn Hannah, II, Victoria Hodge, Justin Maurice Lofton, Carli O'Steen, Timothy Paul Phillipson and Daniel Walker; all of Morton; Mary Jeanette Barton, Sebastopol; Anthony Buffington, Sr., Jessica Fugitt and Joseph Andrew Lathem; all of Walnut Grove;

Smith: Rodgrick L Anderson, Conehatta; Carlos Battle, Louin; Chris Parkman, Pulaski; Hattiesburg;

Jasper: Sally Ann Campbell, Louin;

Lauderdale: James C. Eure, Forest;

Leake: Geraldine l. Billy Deason, Elise Harrell and Trisha Nicole White, all of Carthage;

Neshoba: Kelly Copeland, Tamia Jones, Morgan Victoria Myers, Jonathan Pickens and Brittni Ray, all of Philadelphia; Brandi Nicole Chrestman, Pontotoc; and Kathryn L. Dearman and William J. Long, Union;

Newton: Pamela Denise Bouler, Kimberly N. Hollingsworth, Cynthia M. Lockett, Ashley Parks, Cynthia Ray and Jerri Sow, all of Decatur; Lourie Mowdy, Hickory; Leslie N. Nester, Lawrence; Sha Parker and Anna L. Smith, both of Little Rock; Stacy McNeil and Genetta L. Taylor, both of Newton; and Morgan Hamm and Shanna McKee, both of Union;

Rankin: Regina Parker, Pelahatchie;

Scott: Ashley Leann Crimm, Jordan T. Gibbs, Tery Dwain Higginbotham, Audrey C. Neal and Brittany Reed, all of Forest; Mary Gretchen Stubbs, Greenwood; Ann Colbert, Miranda Jill Hines and Kristy Michelle Youngblood, all of Lake; Myrtle Renee Johnson and Kenya Roselynn Singleton, both of Morton; and Heather B. Richardson and Amber B. Tatum, both of Pulaski;

Winston: Joseph Myers Cornelius, Sharika Chanel Love and Marci L. Patterson, all of Louisville; Kimberly Juwan Ball, McCool; and Angela K. Price, Noxapater;

Out-of-state: Georgia: Holly Wilson Hardy, Calhoun; and Justin Wade, Ellenwood.

Parks, Katrina Patie-Stribling, Gillian Hunter Davis Poole, Justin Porter, Michael Shane Robertson, Jana Elizabeth Sansing, Corey Sharp, Laura A. Smith, David Skyler Steele, Keena A. Stewart, Gregory Scott Stovall, Tyson Stribling, Jonathan Townsend, Bronson Tubby, Phillip Vines, Justin Weems, Brittany Anna White, Whitnee Leigh White, Renita K. Willis, Abby Lanee Yates and Tiah Rae York; all of Philadelphia; Stephanie Rochelle Reeves, Preston; and Kendall Jordan Boler, Jessica A. Culpepper, Steven Kory Culpepper, Sabra N. Fortenberry, Sara Olivia Goss, Sondreia Deunous Hillie, Kyle David Keady, Leslie Sheresse Nash, Ricky Rickles, Mitchell J. Roberts, Anna Katherine Rouse, Justin Rushing and Daniel Thomas Winstead; all of Union;

Newton: Caleb Scott Frink and Jana Johnson, both of Chunky; Kimberly Denise Anderson, Jill Christine Compton, Ashley Nicole May, Carrie McDonald, Mary Ellen Taylor, Shawntye N. Vaughn and Bryan Williamson, all of Conehatta; Kelsi Nicole Ables, Jesus Aleman, Ashley Dru Anderson, Yentl Brantley, Sara Anne Bryan, Kizzy Lucinda Caston-Miller, Heather Brittany Garrison, Caitlin L. Harper, Hunter Thomas Hayes, Apryl Suzanne Henry, Sarah Rebecca Henry, Philip DeAnte Jordan, Fredrick F. Lyons, Jr., Andrew David Marshall, Mindy Caral Parker, Colette Russell, Lindsey Brooke Stevens, Vicky Nicole Strait and Chelsey LuAnn Vincent; all of Decatur; Noah Travis Cook, Demetra Dawkins, Ashley Nicole Henley, Jonathan LeShaun Jackson, Rodney Dale Parker Jr., Cody David Pugh, Daniel Steverson and Jennifer Wyatt, all of Hickory; Carole Beth Alexander, George H. Hedgepeth, Tiffany Plummer, Joshua N. Sheehan and Robert Bailey Westbrook, all of Little Rock; Dina Campbell, Allen B. Davis, Andre Ellis, Philip M. Evans, Tawayatha Tanielle Evans, Marvin J. Flucker, Lakeithia Lashell Ford, Drew Morgan Gillis, Robin O'Neal Goodin, Haylee Holden Haralson, Chotsani Henderson, Eric O'Neal Kyzar, John Curtis Little, Rhonda Sue May, Brookes Anne Mayes, Joseph M. McDonald, Joshua Webb Moore, Falind C. Pace, David A. Pugh, Kaleb Lance Rice, Christin Marie Stamper, Cynthia Thompson, Skye Nichole Tindall and Lillie H. Wash; all of Newton; Lucy Fulton and Travis R. Page, both of Philadelphia; and Jess Martin Brantley, Nicholas R. Brown, Ashton Carleta Crouther, Melissa Ferguson, Jelessa P. McDonald, Tharin La'Bradford McNichols, Carrie LeAnn Rowzee, Johnna D. Wesley,

Neshoba: Diana Jean Hickman; Choctaw; Kevin Roark, Louisville; Carrie A. Alexander, Jonni Diane Anderson, Leslie Boatner, Melissa A. Charlie, Johnny Trent Cumberland, Simone Le'Shea Greer, Jessica L. Griffin, Sharon Denise Griffin, Channing Lance House, Rebecca Lewis, Michael Dewayne Pierce, Tamekia L. Sutton, Stacy Svihla and Twyla Renae Wilson York, all of Philadelphia; and Jayme T. Ferguson, Union;

Newton: Justin Dwayne Reynolds, Chunky; Brandon Anderson, Conehatta; Corey Spence Gressett, Latasha Narkeyda Hall, James Shelby Hattaway, Theressa Grace Killens and Karen Porter, all of Decatur; Jennifer Smith and Roxanne Ealy Wilson, both of Hickory; Kimberly Diane Savell, Lake; Jack Anthony Anderson, II, Rustin Scott Godwin, Charles R. Gordon, III, Char'Dae Knowlin, Durwin P. Lewis, Yasmin A. Nicks, Stephanie Pace, Ronnie Page and Austin Cliff Scoggin, Jr., all of Newton; and Laura M. Hickman, Sean T. McElfish, Todd Terrell and Kerri Shea Withers, all of Union;

Noxubee: Erica Pope, Macon;

Oktibbeha: Katlan French, Starkville;

Scott: Paula Monk John, Carthage; Karen J. Bloodsaw, Kendrah N. Bradford, Jacqueline K. Pace, Derrick Qualls, Bethany Sharp and Ernest W. Spivey, all of Forest; Reshelle Stroud and Kyle Franklin Wolfe, both of Lake; Dianne A. Boyd, Lena; Brooke Harrell, Alicia Nicole Torrence and Tavarius T. Walker, all of Morton; Rhianna Lee Rhodes, Pulaski; and Allyson Brook Easom, Sebastopol;

Winston: Remonia R. Burnside, Shekeisha Lashunda Coleman, Melanie Deigh Eaves, Markevius Hoskins, Joylisha Carletta Keayun Hunt, Chris Ivy, Evin Roark, Kenneth Whitfield and Jessica Leigh Yarbrough; all of Louisville; Cole Cremeen, Noxapater; and Joel Keith Edwards, Sturgis;

Out-of-state:

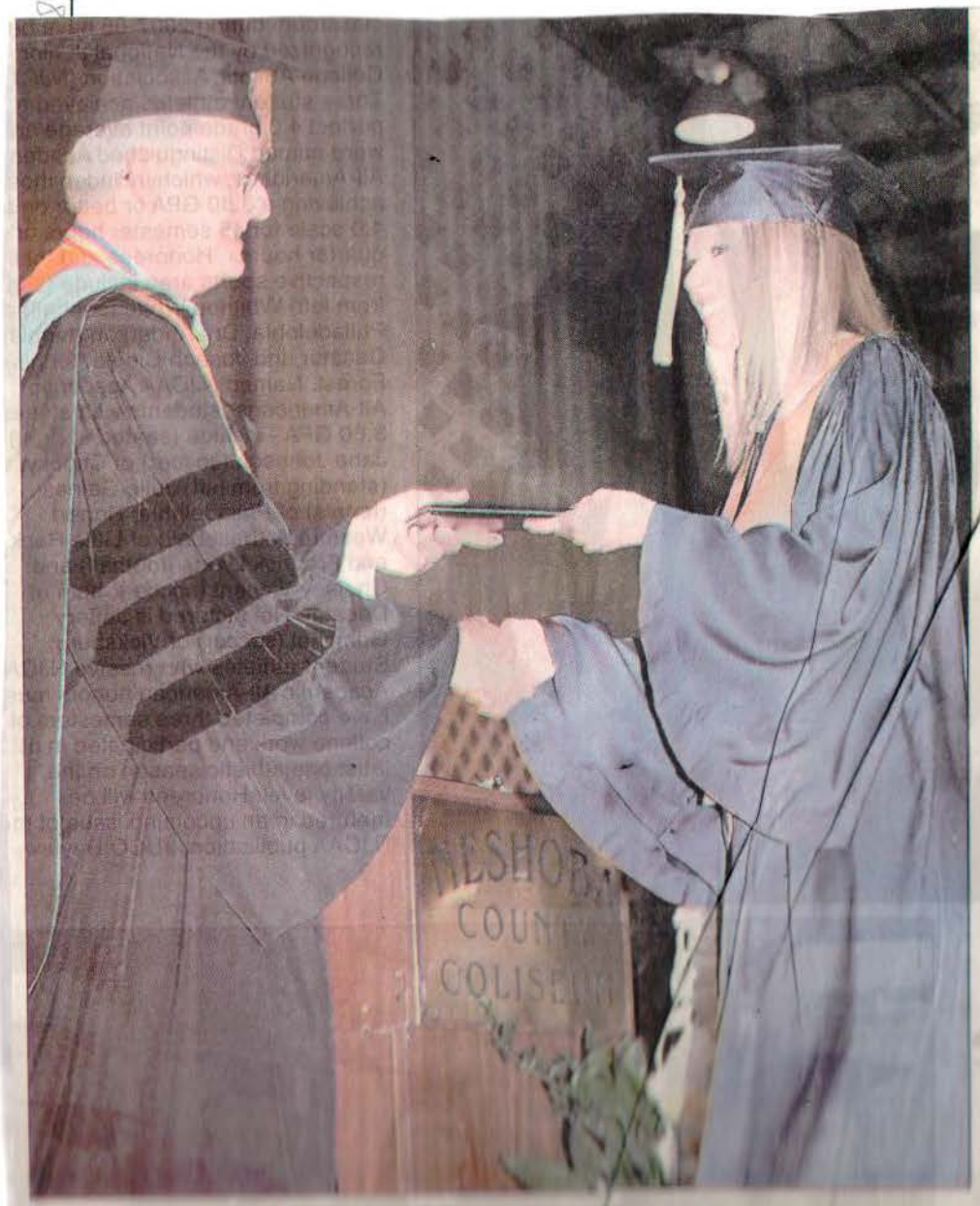
Alabama: Jamar E. Lawrence, Fosters; Freddie James Parham, Jr., Margaret; Ra'Anthoni Frierson and Quann Lowe, both of Tuscaloosa; and

Florida: Roosevelt Ross, Lowell.

August 2007 Graduates:
Mississippi: (by county)

Clarke: Nicole Renee McCree, Quitman;

Forrest: Michael Judson Fondren, Jr.,



ECCC GRATUATION

Brittany White of Union was among graduates who received diplomas from Dr. Phil A. Sulphin, ECCC president.

and Jaimie Ra'chard Brown, Denisha S. Harris, Zachary P. Harris, Kimberly D. Hearn, Temeka Shanta Hopson, Shundra Catricia Lindsey, Dorothy Jean Price and Marcus Russell Tanner, all of Meridian;

Leake: Lynette Bell, Justin Brown, Meagan Danielle Cook, Nellie Michal Crenshaw, Tommy G. Deason, Kristi Ellis, Chassidy R. Evans, Benjamin R. Farve, Amber Griffin, Alexandra Harris, Cindell Hickman, Courtney Rachelle Ingram, Lorie Danielle Jenkins, Tamara Anise Leflore, Joshua C. Luckett, Alisa M. Matlock, Kendrick Nichols, Mallory Rebecca Parker, Carrie Elizabeth Dorman Perkins, Barry Lee Pope, Evelyn Primer, Heather Ray, Amantha Roberson, Jennifer Leah Sistrunk, Stephen Martez Summers, Katherine Elizabeth Christine Taylor, Akair D. Wilder, Traci Harrell Wilson, Kerrie B. Wooten and Shelley R. Wright; all of Carthage; Nathan R. Wallace, Conehatta; Cheryl Lynn Dowell, Mark Bradley Latham and Adam Christopher Wade, all of Lena; James Patrick Johnson, III, Madden; and Kristi Lynn Allen, Brandon Bolton, Haley Marie Fisher, Brittany Herrington and Chasity Odom McDill, all of Walnut Grove;

Monroe: Jordan Anne Patterson, Aberdeen;

Neshoba: Christa Isaac Skelton, Choctaw; Clint Allen, Matthew Anthony, Angle Dawn Bateman, Joanne W. Ben, Wade A. Boatright, Thomas Drew Bozeman, Tosha Boswell, Patrick Dewayne Boswell, Rashundra Shenique Brass, Marty R. Briscoe, Cassidy H. Byars, Corby Boyd Callahan, Rachel Leigh Chappell, Hope Charlie, Carlena Clemmons, Contesha Shavett Clemons, Angel Crockett, William Brennen Cumberland, Christina Dennis, Frank Dixon, Jr., J. J. Downing, Britney Laine Ellingburg, David Alan Eubanks, Joseph Lake Fitzhugh, Julie Frances Gaines, Megan Leigh Gibson, Samantha Hardin, Shawnta Renee Hawthorne, Julie Holley, Loni Michelle Holley, Jeremy L. Holmes, Kyle Prentiss James, Etta Johnson, Tenesha NeaSahay Johnson, Rolanda Michelle Killins, Theresa Nicole Land, Austin McNair, Andrea N. Mitchell, Kimberly Moody, Brittny B. Morris, Deana Morrow, Winnie Elaine Owen, Rick and Kellie Sullivan, Taylorsville;

Winston: Brent Blackwell, Dimetrius D. Bragg, Lara Renae Burt, Trenton Glenn Cockrell, Erica Davenport, Amber Eaves, Joel L. Glass, Andrew L. Haynes, Christy Hickman, Christina Hopkins, Kendall Maurice Hoskins, Tequia P. Hudson, Tiera Lashay Hughes, Darrell Jernigan, Kelly Anne Kight, Charles J. Mays, Tyler Lee McCool, Kimberly McDill, Kimberly Hannah Miles, Carey J. Miller, Daniel McMillin Parker, Starlett N. Pettie, Holly Michelle Preston, Carlos Maurice Rice, Brittany Gayle Rushing, Stan Smith, Terry Lynn Smith, Gwendolyn Lachelle Steele, Justin Vernon, Latrice Waters, Sandra M. Whitman, Ian Dobson Whitney, Britni Nicole Wright and Kandace R. Yarbrough, all of Louisville; Cody Ryan Coward, Kayla Dawn Coward, Nicholas Robinson, Ryan Smyth and Mary Elizabeth Thorne, all of Noxapater; and Valerie Johnson, Preston.

Out-of-state:

Alabama:

Donald E. Williams, Jr., Birmingham; Randy Hyatt, Butler; and John Bailey, Duncanville; and

Texas: Lauren Elizabeth Smith, Arlington.

December 2007 graduates:

Mississippi: (by county)

Adams: April Boyd, Natchez;

Attala: Aimee Claire Baugh and Akeele Smith, both of Kosciusko;

Choctaw: Ashley P. Channell, Ackerman;

Desoto: Tara Graham, Southaven;

Jasper: Erica Delneshia Jones, Louin; Barbara Alston and Carol V. McGee, both of Rose Hill;

Jones: Dedra Danyale Moody, Laurel;

Lauderdale: Latrycia D. Brown, Shanika Shaunta Clark, Madeline Collette Dorman, Marquis Harris, Lamario Hopson, Joshua Wayne Warren and Robert Trey Whitehead, all of Meridian;

Leake: Jessica A. Clark, Toni R. Langston and Anthony Kyle Sanders, all of Carthage; Courtney Paige Johnson, Walnut Grove;

Madison: Dameon Brown, Canton;

WEEK OF May 19, 2008

GRADUATING SOPHOMORES

More than 470 students were candidates fo graduation Saturday, May 10, 2008, when East Central Community College held its 79h Commencement in the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia. Graduating sophonores participating on the program included (from left) Jonathan Jackson of Hickory, who gave the invocation; Drew Gillis of Decatur, benediction; Dru Anderson of Decatur and Ryan Reeves of Forest, who presented the musical selection "How You Live, Turn Up TheMusic;" and Julie Gaines of Philadelphia, commencement speaker.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR X

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF May 19, 2008

ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVE ECCC NURSING DEGREES

These students from Scott County completed the two-year associate degree nursing program at East Central Community College and were recognized for their accomplishment at the annual ADN Pinning Ceremony held May 8, 2008, on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Lacey Williams, Forest; Haley Fisher, Sebastopol; Jerl Martin, Forest; and Mary Barton, Sebastopol. Standing from left are Brian Waltman, Lake; Courtney Townsend, Forest; Shirley Denton, Morton; Sean Self, Forest; and Daniel Walker, Morton. Waltman was among program participants and delivered the closing prayer. Faculty member Nan Anderson pinned the 42 graduates who comprise the Class of 2008. Betsy Mann serves as dean of healthcare education.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES X

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF May 19, 2008

ECCC PHOTO

HEALTHCARE ASSISTANT GRADUATES

These students were recently recognized for completing the Healthcare Assistant Program at East Central Community College in Decatur. Graduates of the six-month program qualify for employment as nurse assistants, long-term care aides or home-health aides in the Mississippi healthcare industry. Seated from left are Jennifer Clark, Louisville; Ashley Crawford, Philadelphia; Susie Finderson, Forest; Francesca Hussey, Decatur; and Hailey Kilpatrick, Philadelphia. Standing from left are Ashley Roland and Brooke Savell, both of Philadelphia; Chassidy Smith, Decatur; Takelia Stephens and Leeann Williams, both of Meridian; Stacia Young, Quitman; and instructor Theresa Cole. For more information regarding the Healthcare Assistant program contact Ms. Cole (ext. 131) or Betsy Mann (ext. 294), dean of healthcare education, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222. The email addresses are tcole@eccc.edu and bmann@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES X

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL X

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF May 19, 2008

Scott Countians Receiving ECCC Nursing Degree

These students from Scott County completed the two-year associate degree nursing program at East Central Community College and were recognized for their accomplishment at the annual ADN Pinning Ceremony held May 8, 2008, on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Lacey Williams, Forest; Haley Fisher, Sebastopol; Jeri Martin, Forest; and Mary Barton, Sebastopol. Standing from left are Brian Waltman, Lake; Courtney Townsend, Forest; Shirley Denton, Morton; Sean Self, Forest; and Daniel Walker, Morton. Waltman was among program participants and delivered the closing prayer. Faculty member Nan Anderson pinned the 42 graduates who comprise the Class of 2008. Betsy Mann serves as dean of healthcare education. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON X

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF May 12, 2008

ECCC Announces Spring Sports Award Winners

Various honors were presented to members of East Central Community College's spring sports teams during the annual awards program held May 5 on the Decatur campus.

ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and respective team coaches presented awards.

Receiving honors in baseball were Robert Westbrook of Little Rock, scholar athlete; Brian Jones of Scottsville, Ky., most valuable player and most valuable pitcher; Jack Edmonson of Louisville, most improved; and Josh Lafferty of Quitman, Jamie Clark Warrior Award. Lafferty, Chris Parkman of Pulaski and Jacob Casey of Union received team captain honors.

The Diamond Warriors are led by head coach Neal Holliman and assistants Michael Avalon and Roberto Martinez.

Recipients of awards in women's basketball included Tawaytha Evans of Newton, scholar athlete; Tenesha Brown of Jackson, most valuable offensive player, third team NJCAA All-American, All-Region 23 and MACJC All-State; Chotsani Henderson of Newton, most valuable defensive player; Allison Phillips of Carthage, most improved; Jordan Patterson of Aberdeen, hustle award; and Rashima Jenkins of Bossier City, La., Lady Warrior Award and All-Region 23.

The Lady Warrior team was also recognized for winning the Region 23 Tournament and advancing to the NJCAA Women's Basketball Championship in Salina, Kansas.

Bill Smith serves as Lady Warrior head coach and Blessing Chekwa is his assistant.

In men's basketball, award winners were Karl Robinson of Jackson, scholar athlete; Josh Luckett of Carthage, most valuable offensive player; Rod Lofton of Forest, most valuable defensive player; Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Hickory, most improved player; Mark Wilson of Delhia, La., hustle award; and Darron Maxtion of Ardmore, Ala., Warrior Award.

Maurice Bowie serves as head coach and Brandon Cornelius is his assistant.

In golf, Alex Deason of Philadelphia received the scholar athlete award and was recognized for having the lowest scoring average during competition. Chase Ward of Sylacauga, Ala., was recognized for making the All-Tournament Team at the ECCC Invitational held at Forest Country Club.

James Moore serves as head coach.

Receiving awards in fast-pitch softball were Whitnee White of Philadelphia, scholar athlete, most outstanding offensive player, team captain award and first team All-State; Shenique Brass of Philadelphia, most valuable player, team captain award, first team All-State, first team All-Division; Sondreia Hill of Union, most outstanding defensive player, team captain award, first team All-State and first team All-Division; Codee Russell of Madden and Amber Smith of Union, most outstanding pitchers and second team All-Division; Lindsey Stevens of Decatur, Lady Warrior Award and team captain award; Laura Smith of Philadelphia, team captain award; and Haley Chipley of Carthage and Leah Dennis of Philadelphia, second team All-Division.

Scott Hill is head coach and Tiffany Thomas served as his assistant.

In women's tennis, awards were presented to Dru Anderson of Decatur, scholar athlete and most valuable player; Julie Gaines of Philadelphia, team captain; and Cheryl Dowell of Lena, Warrior Award.

Recipients of awards for men's tennis included Keith Brown of Forest, scholar athlete and Warrior Award; Joseph Cieglo, also of Forest, scholar athlete; Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Hickory, most valuable player; and Josh Moore of Newton, team captain.

Kyle Watson and Dianne and Pat O'Neill serve as coaches.

OCRAT _____
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WEEK OF May 12, 2008

ECCC Men's And Women's Soccer Team Recognized

The East Central Community College men's soccer team was recently recognized for its academic success during the fall 2007 semester by the National Junior College Athletic Association. The Soccer Warriors posted a 3.02 grade point average during the fall term, second only to Scottsdale (Arizona) Community College which led the nation with a 3.09 GPA. Team members, shown displaying certificates signifying the academic accomplishment, and their respective home towns include (seated from left) Josh Moore, Jasper, Ala.; McClain Mullins, Tupelo; Sam Lewis, Decatur; Sam Wilson, Meridian; Kyle Killens, Decatur; and Taylor Booker, Wiggins; and (standing from left) Justin Traylor and Patrick Creel, both of Florence; Mat Turner, Mendenhall; Dwayne Furline, Quitman; and Zach Allen, Philadelphia; and Coach Kenneth Thompson. Not pictured are team members Zach Pillsbury, Decatur; Noah Cook, Hickory; Jeff Grimshel, Vicksburg; and Kevin Roney, Laurel.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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THE PHILADELPHIAN X

WEEK OF May 12, 2008

Members of the East Central Community College women's soccer team were recently recognized for academic excellence by the National Junior College Athletic Association. The Soccer Lady Warriors achieved a 3.25 grade point average for the fall 2007 term and finished fourth in the nation. Oxford College of Emory University in Oxford, Ga., came in first with a 3.44 GPA. This year's achievement marks the third consecutive year the Lady Soccer Warriors have finished among the top five in the academic competition. The ECCC team had the highest GPA in 2005. Team members, shown displaying certificates signifying the achievement, and their respective hometowns include (seated from left) Jana Johnson, Chunky; Brooke White, Florence; Skye Tindall, Newton; Chelsey Vincent, Decatur; and Kimbo Seale, Meridian; and (standing from left) Catalina Tarazona, Florence; Sidney Gutierrez, Chunky; Belinda Woodall, Meridian; Kenzie Gaines, Philadelphia; Megan Munn, Decatur; Kristen Pillsbury, Decatur; Kacy Covert, Collinsville; and Coach Kenneth Thompson. Not pictured are Allison Leach, Union; Kaley Ball, Laurel; and Megan Klauck, Philadelphia.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN ✓

'Strive to Be the Best,' ECCC, Speaker Tells Fellow Graduates

Julie Gaines recalled "lasting memories" of her two years as a student at East Central Community College in Decatur and challenged fellow graduates of the 2008 Class "to strive to be the best" during her remarks at the College's 79th Commencement held Saturday morning at the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia.

Gaines, an honor graduate and Hall of Fame inductee, thanked instructors "for the knowledge we have gained" as she and her classmates either continue their education or enter the workforce.

The Philadelphia resident admitted what she will remember most about ECCC "does not involve the quadratic equation nor does it have anything to do with subject/verb agreements." She provided a few examples:

"I will remember the way Ms. (Sharon) LeJeune genuinely cared for each one of her students, calling us all by name and teaching us practical knowledge as well as biological sciences.

"I will remember 'Chicken

Continued On Page 1B

Julie Gaines of Philadelphia addresses fellow graduates at ECCC's commencement held Saturday morning at the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

ECCC

Continued From Page 1A

Thursday' and the ice cream machine exploding on me in the cafeteria.

"And who could forget Spring Spree, mid-day naps and cramming for tests at midnight!

"I will look back on pictures and forever remember the wonderful people that I have met at East Central, and how helpful and caring the faculty is. These are the things that I find make an ordinary academic institution exceptional, and in this, EC is up there with the best."

Gaines also reminded graduates "to be flexible to the demands of whatever situation we face, as we now are leaving what has become our comfort zone."

She further commented, "With each new challenge, fear will be inevitable, but it is the way in which these fears are conquered that makes a person grow. We, as graduates, are facing a new venture. Yes, we are going to have troubles along the way, but honestly, where would we all be without them? We must face all thrown at us with confidence, grounded in the wisdom gained through past trials. We have the ability to do amazing things, yet we chain ourselves with fear of failure."

She quoted Romans 5:3-6 as a guide for optimism in times of difficulty:

"...but let us also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope....You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly."

Gaines added, "We can reach our goals, and trials only make us stronger while conversely forcing us to realize that we do need the help of others."

She also stressed the importance of "the beautiful details in life, rather than the hardships," a lesson she learned this spring as a member of the Lady Warrior tennis team.

"Coach (Dianne) McNeill never became angry over the loss of a match," Gaines stated. "She would simply tell us what we did well and what needed to be improved upon. What angered her most was (having) an unsportsmanlike attitude. Should not our lives be lived in a similar manner? Regardless of the final score, it truly is the small details and the attitude we uphold that are going to matter in the end."

During her closing remarks, Gaines shared a statement by Abraham Lincoln, which included the following message: "....I am not bound to succeed, but I am bound to live up to the light I have....Let us have the faith that makes might, and in that faith, let us, to the end, dare to do our duty as we understand it..."

"We too should have a similar mindset," Gaines remarked. "Like the song performed earlier states, life is made valuable by 'how you live.' Ten years from now, your former teachers and employers may no longer remember your GPA, nor will they necessarily remember what you wore to work or class. It is much more likely that they remember your attitude toward your studies, your peers, and life in general."

She concluded her remarks by issuing the following challenge to the Class of 2008:

"Strive to be the best teacher, the best coach, the best mechanic, the best nurse or best student that you can possibly be. I challenge you to embrace the best of times, to not fear the best of competitors and to be the best that you can."

In addition to Gaines, other graduating sophomores who participated in program were Jonathan Jackson of Hickory, invocation; Drew Gillis of Decatur, benediction; and vocalists Dru Anderson of Decatur and Ryan Reeves of Forest, who presented the musical selection, "How You Live, Turn Up the Music."

Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, vice president for instruction, presented the approximately 470 candidates for graduation who received diplomas from ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

WEEK OF May 12, 2008

ECCC Healthcare Assistant Program Graduates

These students were recently recognized for completing the Healthcare Assistant Program at East Central Community College in Decatur. Graduates of the six-month program qualify for employment as nurse assistants, long-term care aides or home-health aides in the Mississippi healthcare industry. Seated from left are Jennifer Clark, Louisville; Ashley Crawford, Philadelphia; Susie Finderson, Forest; Francesca Hussey, Decatur; and Hailey Kilpatrick, Philadelphia. Standing from left are Ashley Roland and Brooke Savell, both of Philadelphia; Chassidy Smith, Decatur; Takelia Stephens and Leeann Williams, both of Meridian; Stacia Young, Quitman; and instructor Theresa Cole. For more information regarding the Healthcare Assistant program contact Ms. Cole (ext. 131) or Betsy Mann (ext. 294), dean of healthcare education, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222. The email addresses are tcole@eccc.edu and bmann@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF May 5, 2008

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MAYES RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS PBL SCHOLARSHIP: East Central Community College sophomore Brookes Mayes of Newton was presented the Rufus T. Jones Scholarship at the annual State Phi Beta Lambda Leadership Conference held in Tupelo. Mayes is the lone PBL member in the state to receive the award, which was established to recognize Jones' years of outstanding service and dedication to Mississippi Future Business Leaders of America and Phi Beta Lambda. The scholarship is presented yearly to one PBL member who has shown dedication to FBLA/PBL through outstanding service and leadership. Mayes also received various awards at the state competition and will compete with other ECCC students at the National PBL Leadership Conference June 21-24 in Atlanta.

APPEARED IN:

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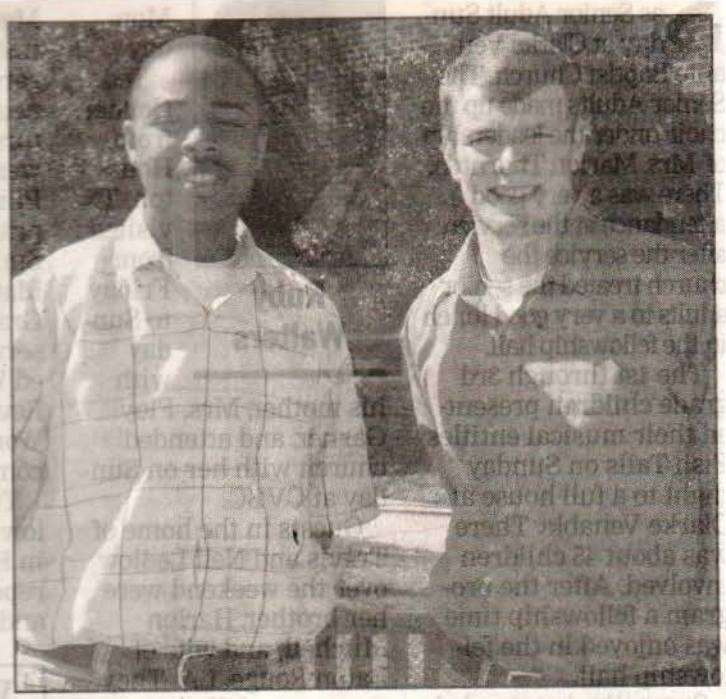

DICKERSON RECEIVES STATE PBL HONOR: Josh Dickerson (right) of Union, a freshman at East Central Community College in Decatur, will serve as Phi Beta Lambda State Parliamentarian for 2008-09. Dickerson was appointed to the position after scoring the highest mark on the Parliamentary Procedure Test at the organization's state conference held recently in Tupelo. Dickerson also received various awards at state competition and will compete with numerous other ECCC students at the National PBL Leadership Conference scheduled June 21-24 in Atlanta. Also pictured is ECCC sophomore Terry Smith of Louisville, who served this past year at PBL State Parliamentarian. Smith represented the state chapter at conferences in Chicago, Birmingham, Meridian, and most recently at the state meeting in Tupelo. Smith was also honored at the state conference with his selection to Who's Who in Phi Beta Lambda. Phi Beta Lambda is the premier Business Education Organization preparing students for careers in business and success in life. Its purpose is to foster a better relationship between one another and to cultivate a better understanding of business principles in general.

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ECCC welcomes new Phi Theta Kappa members

EEK OF May 5, 2008

Eighty-seven East Central Community College were recently tapped for membership into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, during the spring induction ceremony held on the Decatur campus.

The purpose of Phi Theta Kappa is to promote scholarship, develop character and cultivate fellowship among academically superior students. Membership is by invitation only and requires a minimum 3.5 grade point average earned as a full-time student.

Joining the prestigious organization and their respective counties and hometowns are the following:

Leake County: Gwendolyn Crumbley, Britni Harvey, Aaron Mann, Lacey McMurry, Virginia Mitchell, Ashley Pigg and Emily Wooten, all of Carthage; and Brittany Harrison, Lena;

Neshoba County: Dekota Anthony, Laura Bain, Derek Crenshaw, Angel Crockett, Kenzie Gaines, Reagan Joyner, Patrick Patterson, Codee Russell, Corey Sharp, Casey Stokes, Stracy Svihla, Rebecca Watkins and Brandon Williams, all of Philadelphia; Conehatta; and Amanda Hines, Lawrence;

Scott County: Diane Berthelette, Jessica Brown, Britanny Cushman, Stacey Rasco, Caitlin Slay and Tyler Walters, all of Forest; and Stacee McCurdy, Morton;

Winston County: Kayla Adcock, Lindsey Clark, Laken Morgan, Jacqueline Moore, Jeremy Sacier, Whitney Smith, Sherry Weeks, Anna White and Britni Wright, all of Louisville;

Out of district: Courtney Allbritton, Ethel; Joni Bozeman, DeKalb; Ruby Crew, Florence; Autumn Durant, Preston; Casey-Fitch-Randolph, Brandon; Kimberly Hearn, Timothy Maloney, Felisha Martin and Anna Switzer, all of Meridian; Rashima Jenkins, Bossier City, La.; Josh Lafferty, Quitman; Terry Lightheart, Canton; Matthew Naylor and Thomas Walker, both of Collinsville; and Gillian Poole, Kosciusko.

ECCC instructors Debbie Hammons and Bruce Guraedy serve as Theta Xi advisers.

Newton County: Myrial Brown, Keith Hollingsworth, Sondra Rasco and Hailey Walker, all of Newton; Austin Crouthers, Joshua Dickerson, Anna Ezell, Jessica Galloway, Anna Johnson, Daniel Johnson, Matthew Livingston, Kylie Rigdon, Amy Sharp, Amber Smith, Candace Vance and Krystle Wolverton, all of Union; Shaun Cooper, Calli Cumberland, Joy Hayes, Kyle Killens and Megan Munn, all of Decatur; April Dunavant, Sarah Eakes and Mary Lanier, both of Little Rock; Jonathan Federick and Ted Valentine, both of Hickory; Sidney Guiterrez, Chunky; Jessica Leach,

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WEEK OF May 5, 2008

ECCC graduation scheduled

From Press Reports

More than 470 students are scheduled to receive diplomas Saturday, May 10, 2008, when East Central Community College holds its 79th Commencement beginning at 11 a.m. in the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia.

Included in the total are those who completed degree requirements following the 2007 summer and fall terms, according to Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, Vice President for Instruction.

Those participating in the program include graduating sophomores Jonathan Jackson of Hickory, who will give the invocation; Julie Gaines of Philadelphia, commencement speaker; and Drew Gillis of Decatur, benediction. Dru Anderson of Decatur and Ryan Reeves of Forest will present the musical selection "How You Live, Turn Up The Music."

Dr. Sparkman will present candidates for graduation and ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin will award degrees and certificates to the following:

Candidates for graduatWINSTON: Brent Blackwell, Dimetrius D. Bragg, Lara Renae Burt, Trenton Glenn Cockrell, Erica Davenport, Amber Eaves, Joel L. Glass, Andrew L. Haynes, Christy Hickman, Christina Hopkins, Kendall Maurice Hoskins, Tequia P. Hudson, Tiera Lashay Hughes, Darrell Jernigan, Kelly Anne Kight, Charles J. Mays, Tyler Lee McCool, Kimberly McDill, Kimberly Hannah Miles, Carey J. Miller, Daniel McMillin Parker, Starlett N. Pettie, Holly Michelle Preston, Carlos Maurice Rice, Brittany Gayle Rushing, Stan Smith, Terry Lynn Smith, Gwendolyn Lachelle Steele, Justin Vernon, Latrice Waters, Sandra M. Whitman, Ian Dobson Whitney, Britni Nicole Wright and Kandace R. Yarbrough, all of Louisville; Cody Ryan Coward, Kayla Dawn Coward, Nicholas Robinson, Ryan Smyth and Mary Elizabeth Thorne, all of Noxapater; and Valerie Johnson, Preston.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF May 5, 2008

ECCC graduation set May 10 at NC Coliseum

More than 470 students are scheduled to receive diplomas Saturday, May 10, when East Central Community College holds its 79th Commencement beginning at 11 a.m. in the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia.

Included in the total are those who completed degree requirements following the 2007 summer and fall terms, according to Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, Vice President for Instruction.

Candidates for May graduation from the readership area of *The Carthaginian* include:

Lynette Bell, Justin Brown, Meagan Danielle Cook, Nellie Michal Crenshaw, Tommy G. Deason, Kristi Ellis, Chassidy R. Evans, Benjamin R. Farve, Amber Griffin,

Alexandra Harris, Cindell Hickman, Courtney Rachelle Ingram, Lorie Danielle Jenkins, Tamara Anise Leflore, Joshua C. Luckett, Alisa M. Matlock, Kendrick Nichols, Mallory Rebecca Parker,

Carrie Elizabeth Dorman Perkins, Barry Lee Pope, Evelyn Pinter, Heater Ray, Amantha Roberson, Jennifer Leah Sistrunk, Stephen Martez Summers,

Katherine Elizabeth Christine Taylor, Akair D. Wilder, Traci Harrell Wilson, Kerrie B. Wooten and Shelley R. Wright, all of Carthage;

Nathan R. Wallace, Conehatta; Cheryl Lynn Dowell, Mark Bradley Latham and Adam Christopher Wade, all of Lena; James Patrick Johnson, III, Madden;

Kristi Lynn Allen, Brandon Bolton, Haley Marie Fisher, Brittany Herrington and Chasity Odom McDill, all of Walnut Grove; Courtney Nicole Elkins, Austin Gamblin and Kayla Latahm, all of Lena; Mary Jeanette Barton, Sebastopol; Anthony Buffington, Sr., Jessica Fugitt and Joseph Andrew Lathem, all of Walnut Grove.

December 2007 graduates include: Jessica A. Clark, Toni R. Langston and Anthony Kyle Sanders, all of Carthage; Courtney Paige Johnson, Walnut Grove; Paula Monk John, Carthage; and Allyson Brook Easom, Sebastopol.

August 2007 graduates include: Geraldine I. Billy Deason, Elise Harrell and Trisha Nicole White, all of Carthage.

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WEEK OF April 28, 2008

Lathem scholarship established at ECCC

A scholarship in memory of Andrew Wilson Lathem, a Sebastopol native, was recently established at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Lathem, eighth child of William Andrew and Mattie Brantley Lathem, of Sebastopol, was the only one of 10 children to attend college.

A 1938 graduate of Sebastopol High School, he worked his way through then East Central Junior College and Mississippi State University by milking cows owned by the colleges. He was a member of the Class of 1940 at ECJC.

Following his graduation from MSU, Lathem was employed by the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs with his first assignment in Cherokee, N.C.

He also served on reservations in Hoopa, Calif. and Window Rock, Ariz.

After serving more than 30 years with the bureau, he retired to Allen, Texas, where he worked more than 20 years in the garden center and as a greeter for a discount store.

Lathem, known for his belief in the value of education and work ethic, retired at the age of 87.

Family members established the Andrew Wilson Lathem Scholarship "in memory of his dedication to helping others over the years to become educated individuals."

The scholarship will be awarded annually, dependent of the availability of funding, to a qualified freshman student for the fall semester.

Preference will be given to a Sebastopol High School graduate.

Recipients will be selected by the College Scholarship Committee.

For more information telephone ECCC Student Services at 601-635-2111 or, toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205, or email jkillens@eccc.edu.

Trey McNeece joins ECCC honor society

Brandon Trey McNeece, of Carthage, has joined approximately 90 East Central Community College students tapped for membership in the Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa during the spring induction ceremony held earlier on campus.

The purpose of Phi Theta Kappa, an international honor society for two-year colleges, is to promote scholarship, develop character and cultivate fellowship among academically superior students.

Membership is by invitation only and requires a minimum 3.5 grade point average earned as a full-time student.

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WEEK OF April 28 2008

ECCC SkillUSA State winners

Numerous students representing East Central Community College in Decatur won honors at the annual Mississippi SkillsUSA Championships held recently at Hinds Community College in Raymond. Honorees include (first row, from left) Crystal McGee of Philadelphia, Brandi Carter of Louisville and Krystle Walker of Newton, first-place winners in Occupational Health Safety Single; and Melysheaco Savior of Louisville, third, Job Skills Demonstration Open; (second row, from left) Jackie Poole of Union and Kayla Crane of Morton, third-place winners in Promotional Bulletin Board; Travis Jordan of Pelahatchie, first place, Collision Repair Technology; and Clint Allen of Philadelphia, second, CNC Milling Technology; and (third row, from left) Courtney Stingley of Forest, third, Cosmetology; James Johnson of Madden, first, Residential Wiring; Ian Whitney of Louisville, third, Architectural Drafting; and Shane Robertson of Philadelphia, second, Technical Drafting. The first-place winners will represent Mississippi at the National Skills Leadership Conference in Kansas City, Missouri, June 23-27.

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Accents To Present Concert

WEEK OF April 28, 2008

ECCC PHOTO

The Accents, East Central Community Colleges show choir, will present their spring campus concert at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 1, in Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium on the Decatur campus. The public is invited and admission is free. The popular group will present such hits as Listen to the Music made popular by the Dooble Brothers, What Hurts the Most by Rascal Flatts, the Bee Gees How Deep is Your Love, and the Jessica Simpson version of These Boots Are Made For Walking. Accents members include (front row, from left) Drew Harrison of Little Rock and Dekota Anthony of Philadelphia; (second row, from left) Logan McDonald of Conehatta, Joy Hayes of Decatur, Aaron Mann of Carthage, Emilee Lanier of Little Rock and Dru Anderson and Noah Cook, both of Decatur; and (back row, from left) Brent Cumberland of Philadelphia (sound technician), Maegan Johnston and Kyle Barrett, both of Decatur; Ryan Reeves of Forest, Carmen Ezell of Decatur and Jonathan Crabtree of Vicksburg. Vicki Blaylock serves as director. Vicki Blaylock serves as director. For more information or to schedule a performance, contact Blaylock at 601-635-2111, ext. 225, or toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 225. The email address is vblaylock@eccc.edu.

WEEK OF April 14, 2008

ECCC Gospel Choir plans spiritual Crusade

The East Central Community College Gospel Choir is sponsoring a Spiritual Gospel Crusade on Tuesday, April 29 on the Decatur campus.

Activities begin at 7 p.m. in Huff Auditorium.

Apostle Michael Woods, Sr., pastor of Destiny Place International Ministries of Ridgeland, will serve as guest speaker.

There is no charge for admission.

For more information contact Kathy Sanders, ECCC Communications Office, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 215.

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WEEK OF April 14, 2008

Born on the Bayou: Drew Harrison and Casey Stokes rock out Monday night during the Collegians concert at East Central Community College. The band, led by Tom Carson, played a spirited set of contemporary pop and country tunes, wrapping up with a tribute to classic rockers Creedence Clearwater Revival. Carson said the band, which features a horn section and five singers, will be busy during the coming months, closing out the year with a performance at the Neshoba County Fair this summer.

STAFF PHOTO BY BILL GRAHAM

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WEEK OF April 14, 2008

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE PHOTOS

'BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS' WINNERS AT FBLA COMPETITION: These students received top honors in the Business Communications competition held during the 2008 Central District Conference of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) hosted by East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (seated, from left) Sydney Scruggs, first place, Pearl/Rankin Career-Technical Center; Nathan Calvert, second, Neshoba Central High School; and Kandis Moore, Callaway High School; and (standing, from left) Hannah Peoples, fourth, Newton County Academy; Shelby Smith, fifth, Union High School; and Ryan Gillis, sixth, Newton County Career Center. Also pictured is Wayne Eason, ECCC Dean of Career and Technical Education.

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WEEK OF April 14, 2008

EC Students added to Phi Theta Kappa

Five additional students at East Central Community College in Decatur have been inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges.

Joining the prestigious organization are Spencer West Dickerson of Philadelphia, Brandi Renee Gray of Lake, Jana Floy Johnson of Morton, Ancarisa Frazier of Louisville and Brandon Trey McNeece of Carthage.

They join the approximately 90 students who were tapped for membership during the spring induction ceremony held earlier on campus.

The purpose of Phi Theta Kappa is to promote scholarship, develop character and cultivate fellowship among academically superior students.

Membership is by invitation only and requires a minimum 3.5 grade point average earned as a full-time student.

ECCC faculty members Debbie Hammons and Bruce Guraedy serve as advisers.

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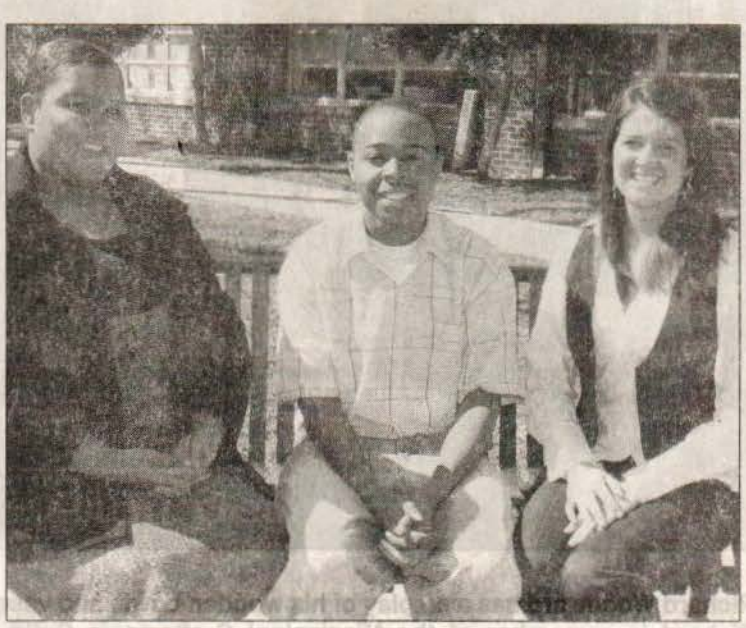
WEEK OF 4/7

PBL selects Who's Who



These East Central Community College students were recently named to Who's Who In Phi Beta Lambda and were recognized at the organization's State Leadership Conference held in Tupelo. From left are Leslie Nash of Union, Terry Smith of Louisville and Brooks Mayes of Newton. Phi Beta Lambda is the premier Business Education Organization preparing students for careers in business and success in life. Its purpose is to foster a better relationship between one another and to cultivate a better understanding of business principles in general.

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WEEK OF 4/7

ECCC All - Stars

Representing East Central Community College in the annual Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges (MACJC) All-Star Basketball Games were (from left) Darron Maxtion of Ardmore, Ala.; Tanesha Brown of Jackson; and Mark Wilson of Delhi, La. Brown, a 5-6 guard from Jackson Provine, scored 11 points and helped lead the South women to an 82-70 win over the North All-Stars. Maxtion, a 6-5 forward from Sparkman (Ala.) High School, tallied eight points and Wilson, a 6-6 forward from Delhi (La.) High School, pumped in 16 points in the South's 108-106 overtime victory over the North. The All-Star competition was held Tuesday, April 1 at Choctaw Central High School in Choctaw. Sponsors are the Pearl River Resort, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, Pepsi, Mississippi Sports Medicine and East Central Community College in Decatur.

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WEEK OF 4/7

STAFF PHOTO BY BILL GRAHAM

Members of the EC Players join Sandy (Carmen Ezelle, center) in a tune in East Central Community College's production of *Grease* at the Vickers Fine Arts auditorium Thursday night. The show ran for four nights, and seats were hard to come by: each night sold out, with attendfees filling the aisles of the auditorium. The musical was directed by Joan Grimes of Union and produced by ECCC President Dr. Phil Sutphin.

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Rush contribution

East Central Community College's Healthcare Education programs have received state-of-the-art instructional equipment thanks to a generous contribution from Rush Health Systems. Rush provided funds for ECCC to purchase a "SIM Man," a simulation device used to enhance clinical experiences. Betsy Mann, dean of ECCC's healthcare division, said the "SIM Man" actually responds to ailments and treatments similar to a real patient, "which provides a great learning experience for our students." ECCC recently held an appreciation luncheon for Rush officials on the Decatur campus followed by a demonstration of the instructional equipment in the Associate Degree Nursing skills lab. Pictured from left are Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president; Rush Health Systems representatives Scott Vincent, Donnie Smith, Nina Dusuang and David Bonner; first-year ADN students Tiffanie Credille of Union, Kemyatta Qualls of Forest and Rebecca Wilbanks of Carthage; Betsy Mann; second-year ADN student Stephanie Reeves of Preston; and nursing instructor/SIM Man operator Brenda Kirby.

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WEEK OF 4/7

Spirit of Morton

ECCC Ac'cents To Hold Auditions April 29

The East Central Community College show choir, Ac'cents, will hold auditions for the 2008-09 group on Tuesday, April 29, in Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Registration begins at 12:30 p.m. with auditions beginning at 1 p.m.

Director Vicki Blalock said, "Those auditioning must have a prepared solo, which can be performed with a CD, sung acappella, or an accompanist will be provided. Students will then be placed into groups for sight-reading music and choreography. A choreographer will teach students about 30 seconds of dance just to check memory skills."

She added, "Auditions will also be held for the college's concert choir during this time."

All Ac'cents members are awarded full tuition scholarships. The concert choir is also a scholarship program.

For more information on any of these group auditions, please contact Blaylock at 601- 635-2111 ext. 225. The email address is vblaylock@eccc.edu. You may also log on to the East Central website at www.eccc.edu and visit the Ac'cents page for more informa-

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WEEK OF April 7

ECCC All-Girl Rock Band to Perform April 14

East Central Community College Director of Bands Tom Carson recently announced the premier of the "Tom Carson Project," an all-girl rock band, which will perform during the Collegians spring campus concert Monday, April 14, at 8 p.m. in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. There is no charge for admission and the public is invited to attend. The band, called "Puzzled," is comprised of seven East Central Community College female students who have never been in a rock band or played rock band instruments. Carson said, "There is so much interest these days with the video game 'Rock Band' and 'Guitar Hero,' I thought it would be a fun challenge to come up with a live rock band from scratch and to add a unique twist by selecting all females to be a part of the group." Members include (front row, from left) vocalists Courtney Gammil of Lake and Kristen Chamblee of Forest; and Emily Malone, keyboard, of Carthage; and (back row, from left) Brooke Culpepper, rhythm guitar of Scott Central; Olivia Scott, lead guitar, of Carthage; Brandi Tollett, bass guitar, of Louisville and Anna Switzer, drums, of West Lauderdale.

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WEEK OF 4/7

NEWSPAPER TOUR

Members of the East Central Community College school newspaper staff — Shaun Cooper, left, Anthony Williams, Kristie Robinson, Lauryn Laird, and Kylie Rigdon —stand in the Meridian Star pressroom and listen as Editor Fredie Carmichael explains how the daily newspaper is produced. The group toured the newspaper during their class time Tuesday.

PHOTO BY KATE KEENAN / SPECIAL TO THE STAR

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 4/7

PHOTO SUBMITTED

GREASE ON STAGE AT ECCC

"Grease" opened Monday at East Central Community College in Decatur. Here Carmen Ezell (as Sandy Dumbrowski) of Decatur, Drew Harrison (as Danny Zuko) of Little Rock and cast members perform one of the selections from the popular musical, being presented in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. Additional performances are scheduled April 3-6, beginning at 7 p.m. The musical production is based on the book, music and lyrics by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey. For ticket information contact the ECCC Communications Office, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222.

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WEEK OF 4/7

Josh Dickerson of Union, a freshman at East Central Community College in Decatur, will serve as Phi Beta Lambda State Parliamentarian for 2008-09. Dickerson was appointed to the position after scoring the highest mark on the Parliamentary Procedure Test at the organization's state conference held recently in Tupelo. Dickerson also received various awards at state competition and will compete with numerous other ECCC students at the National PBL Leadership Conference scheduled June 21-24 in Atlanta.

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WEEK OF 4/7

ECCC Gospel Choir Plans Spiritual Crusade

The East Central Community College Gospel Choir is sponsoring a Spiritual Gospel Crusade on Tuesday, April 29 on the Decatur campus.

Activities begin at 7 p.m. in Huff Auditorium.

Apostle Michael Woods, Sr., pastor of Destiny Place International Ministries of Ridgeland will serve as guest speaker.

There is no charge for admission.

For more information contact Kathy Sanders, ECCC Communications Office, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 215.

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THE PHILADELPHIAN ✓

WEEK OF 3/31

Grease

A NEW 50's ROCK 'N ROLL MUSICAL

Book, Music and Lyrics by
Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey
Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French

Presented by the East Central Community College Players

April 1, 3, 4 & 5 • 7 p.m.
Ovid S. Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium

Tickets $5
For reservations call 601-635-2111

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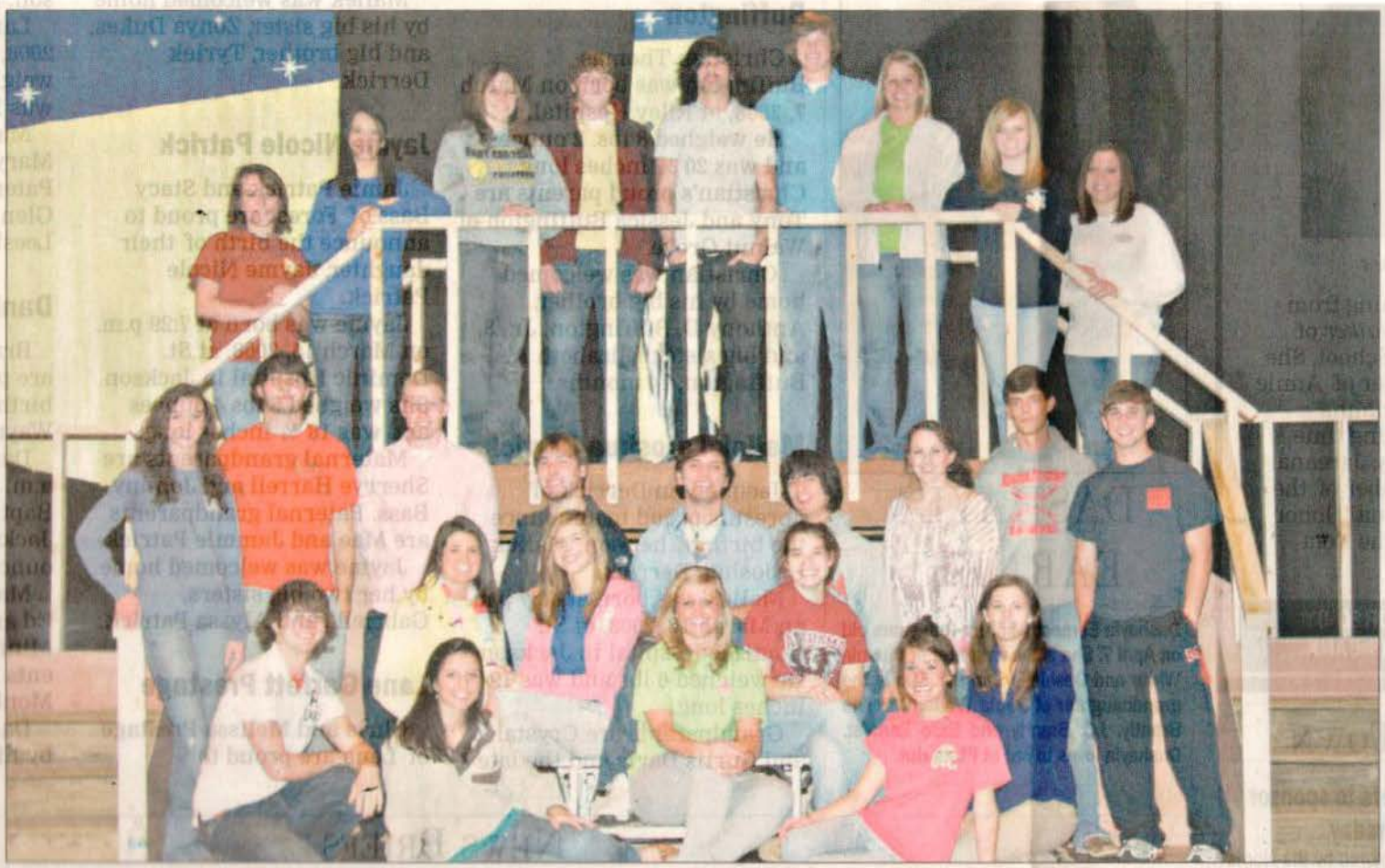
WEEK OF 3/31



The East Central Community College Players will present their spring musical selection, "GREASE," at 7 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, April 3-5, in the Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Tickets are $5.

Set in the 1950s, this musical features the spirited Rydell High class of 1959. "The gum chewing, hubcap stealing, hot rod loving boys and their wise-cracking girls in bobby socks and pedal pushers capture the look and sound of the decade in a rollicking musical," said director Joan Grimes.

"While hip Danny Zuko and wholesome Sandy Dumbrowski resolve the problems of their mutual attraction, the gang sings and dances its way through such nostalgic scenes as the pajama party, the prom, the burger place and the drive-in movie."

Cast members include Drew Harrison (Danny), Emilee Lanier (Rizzo) and Nicole Dunavant (Cha-Cha), all of Little Rock; Carmen Ezelle (Sandy), Kyle Barrett (Roger) and Dru Anderson (Marty), all of Decatur; Noah Cook (Kenicki) and Jonathan Fedrick (Sonny), both of Hickory; Dekota Anthony (Jan) of Philadelphia, Anna Laurie Ezelle (Frenchy) and Josh Dickerson (Doody), both of Union; Aaron Morrison (Eugene) and Brookes Mayes (Patty Simcox), both of Newton; Jennifer Sistrunk (Miss Lynch) and Aaron Mann (Teen Angel), both of Carthage; Ryan Reeves (Johnny Casino) of Forest and McClain Mullins (Vince Fontaine) of Tupelo.

Chorus members include Nichole Ball and Jalisa Smith, both of Louisville; Kacy Covert and Anna Munn, both of Collinsville; Sharla Joyner and Dinah Lachney, both of Little Rock; Hannah McCloud of Chunky, Kylie Rigdon, Allison Leach and Nathan Spears, all of Union; Jennifer Sistrunk, Meagan Cook, and Michael Sandford, all of Carthage; Rebecca Watkins of Philadelphia, Christopher Clark of Lena, Logan McDonald of Conehatta and Shari Nick of Forest.

Also assisting with the production are crew members Beth Aleander of Little Rock, Brittany Bobo and Christopher Buckley, both of Union; Keia Eichelberger and Brandi Tollett, both of Louisville; J.B. Files and Brad Reynolds, both of Noxapater; Debbie Lawrence of Kosciusko, Holly McMullan of Bay Springs and Christopher Merrell of Newton.

ECCC keyboard instructor Natalie Emmons of Lake serves as music director.

For more information call 1-601-635-2111 or toll free 1-877-462-3222.

WEEK OF 3/31

FCA Rally Set April 3 at ECCC

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes at East Central Community College is sponsoring a rally Thursday, April 3 on the Decatur campus.

Activities begin at 7 p.m. in Huff Au ditorium.

Pastor Michael Woods, Sr. is the featured speaker.

The ECCC Gospel Choir will provide entertainment.

For more for information contact Coach Scott Hill, FCA sponsor, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 301. The email address is shill@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF 3/31

Area Students Joining ECCC's PTK Chapter... These East Central Community College students from Newton County are among recent inductees of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges. They join approximately 90 new members of the prestigious organization who were welcomed during the annual spring induction ceremony held on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (first row, from left) Krystle Wolverton, Union; Shaun Cooper, Decatur; Jessica Galloway, Union; and Myrial Brown, Newton; (second row, from left) Austin Crouther, Decatur; Anna Johnson, Union; and Jared Hollinsgworth, Newton; and (back row, from left) Ted Valentine, Hickory; Matt Livingston and Daniel Johnson, both of Union; and Kyle Killens, Decatur. The purpose of Phi Theta Kappa is to promote scholarship, develop character and cultivate fellowship among academically superior students. Membership is by invitation only and requires a minimum 3.5 grade point average earned as a full-time student. ECCC faculty members Debbie Hammons and Bruce Guraedy serve as advisers. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 3/31

ECCC PHOTO

SCOTT STUDENTS JOINING PTK CHAPTER

These East Central Community College students from Scott County are among recent inductees of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges. They join approximately 90 new members of the prestigious organization who were welcomed during the annual spring induction ceremony held on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (first row, from left) Stacee McCurdy, Morton; Stacey Rasco and Sondra Rasco, both of Forest; and (back row, from left) Brittany Cushman, Tyler Walters and Calti Slay, all of Forest. The purpose of Phi Theta Kappa is to promote scholarship, develop character and cultivate fellowship among academically superior students. Membership is by invitation only and requires a minimum 3.5 grade point average earned as a full-time student. ECCC faculty members Debbie Hammons and Bruce Guraedy serve as advisers.

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WEEK OF 3/31

PTK inductees

Leake County students among those inducted recently into the Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, at East Central Community College include, front, from left, Britni Harvey, Aaron Mann and Ginny Mitchell, and back, from left, Lacy McMurry, Ashley Pigg and Wendy Crumbley, all of Carthage.

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WEEK OF 3/31

ECCC PTK welcomes new inductees

These East Central Community College students from Winston County are among recent inductees of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of two-year colleges. They join approximately 90 new members of the prestigious organization who were welcomed during the annual spring induction ceremony held on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (first row, from left) Anna White, Kayla Adcock and Jacqueline Moore, and (back row, from left) Britni Wright, Laken Morgan, Whitney Smith and Lindsey Clark, all of Louisville. The purpose of Phi Theta Kappa is to promote scholarship, develop character and cultivate fellowship among academically superior students. Membership is by invitation only and requires a minimum 3.5 grade point average earned as a full-time student. ECCC faculty members Debbie Hammons and Bruce Guraedy serve as advisers.

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WEEK OF March 24

ECCC Welcomes New Phi Theta Kappa Members

Eighty-seven East Central Community College were recently tapped for membership into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, during the spring induction ceremony held on the Decatur campus.

The purpose of Phi Theta Kappa is to promote scholarship, develop character and cultivate fellowship among academically superior students. Membership is by invitation only and requires a minimum 3.5 grade point average earned as a full-time student.

Joining the prestigious organization from the Spirit of Morton reading area are:

Scott County: Diane Berthelette, Jessica Brown, Britanny Cushman, Stacey Rasco, Caitlin Slay and Tyler Walters, all of Forest; and Stacee McCurdy, Morton;

ECCC instructors Debbie Hammons and Bruce Guraedy serve as Theta Xi advisers.

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WEEK OF March 24

Graduation

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COMPLETE ECCC BASIC ELECTRICITY CLASS: These ESCO Employees recently completed a Basic Electricity class held at East Central Community College through the Workforce Development Center. This program consisted of instruction in basic electricity including electrical theory, commercial, and industrial wiring. Those receiving certificates of completion are (from left) Kyle Wolf of Decatur,Timothy Campbell and Tim Dawkins of Louin, Ben Adkins of Union, Kerry Crenshaw of Decatur, Michael Mazingo of Union, and Tom Sellers of Little Rock. Matthew Shelley, an advanced skills trainer for the ECCC Workforce Development Center, served as instructor.

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

East Central Student

Non-traditional student makes sacrifices

By TAMI K. PHILLIPS
tphillips@sctonline.net

FOREST—As a college student, full-time employee and single mother, Loretta Young never knows what her day will be like.

"It usually starts pretty early," Young said. "I get to work at seven in the morning and sometimes don't make it home until nine or ten at night."

Young is one of many non-traditional students who attend East Central Community College while working full-time and juggling family responsibilities.

"The nontraditional student plays a very important role in the mission of the College," said Gene Davis, Dean of Adult and Continuing Education at ECCC. "Many of these students are looking for non-traditional methods of instruction which may include evening classes, distance learning and E-learning classes. Many students are balancing family and work responsibilities along with going to College."

Young began attending ECCC about seven years ago when she realized her life was not where she wanted it to be. After graduating from Forest High School in 1987, she moved to Jackson hoping to make it on her own.

Several years later, she found herself raising a family while working for B.C. Rogers in Forest.

"I was pushing both of my girls to do better in school and I figured if I pushed them, I could push myself," she said.

So she entered ECCC part-time and has since taken night classes whenever possible. This spring, her final semester, her courses include American Lit II, College Life, American History, World Civilization and Music Appreciation.

Finding time to do everything is not easy, Young said.

She leaves work at Beverly Health Care in Carthage, where she is employed as a certified nursing assistant, at 3 p.m. each day. Then she heads to night class, whether in Decatur, Forest or Carthage.

When Young arrives home at 9 p.m. or later, her time is devoted to her daughters, Hellanisa, 14, and Alexandera, 10.

"That's when I come in, check homework and find out how their day went," she said.

Other times she drops in on the girls' extracurricular activities.

Young's bedtime normally falls between 11 p.m. and midnight.

When she has a weekend off from work, she spends time studying and catching up on homework.

Young also devotes time to her daughters on weekends.

"I try to spend as much time with them to do what they want to do," she said.

Young's parents, Johnny and Helen Owens, have been a huge support system for Young. They watch the girls after school and drive them to band, basketball and other activities.

"As long as she's trying to help herself, we're here for her," Helen Owens said.

The family support is evident as both of Young's daughters are smart, well-behaved girls.

Hellanisa, 14, is an eighth grader at Hawkins Middle School. She is involved in band and basketball as well as the Nick Name Klub.

Alexandera, 10, attends fourth grade at Forest Elementary School. Her hobbies include basketball, cheerleading and summer softball.

Young tries to set a positive example for Hellanisa and Alexandra. She talks with them a good deal about the importance of having good grades and attending college.

"Once you get to my age and you know you could have done it (entered college) after school, it's a whole new ballgame," Young said. "I talk to my girls about the future and tell them 'you can be whatever you want to be.'"

Hellanisa said she looks to her mother as a role model.

"I'm proud of her," Hellanisa said. "I'll be glad when she graduates so she can spend more time with us."

Young will graduate this May with a liberal arts degree in science. She is looking forward to this summer when she can "just rest" before applying for Mississippi State University.

She has no regrets about attending ECCC, a college she said goes to great lengths to cater to non-traditional students.

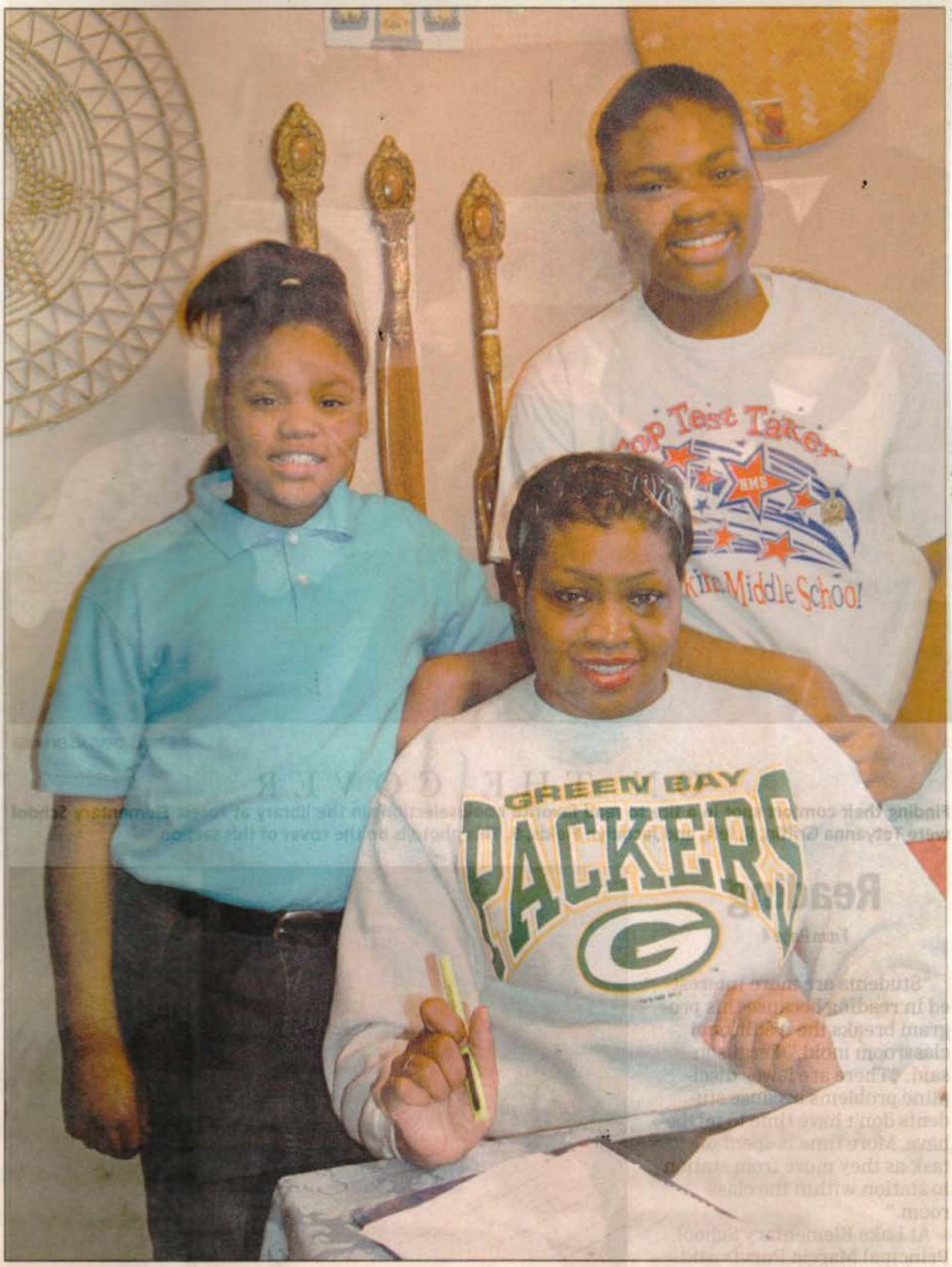
"They offer night classes close to home and most of the instructors go the extra mile to help you," Young said. "They give you a chance to deal with your family when you have to."

Scholarships are available for non-traditional students at ECCC. The college has a scholarship for nontraditional students, along with a first course free for any student who receives his or her GED through ECCC.

Though she has enjoyed her time at ECCC, Young is counting the days until May 10 - graduation!

"It's gonna be Heaven," she said with a sigh. "I won't have to juggle this, that and the other. I thank everybody who had a helping hand in helping with school, homework or my kids."

Wears Many Hats



THE TIMES/TAMI K. PHILLIPS

East Central Community College student Loretta Young, seated, is pictured here with her daughters Alexandera, 10, and Hellanisa, 14. In addition to attending college and raising her daughters, Young works full-time as a certified nursing assistant. Though she wears many hats in life, Young has managed to stay grounded and concentrate on graduating from college.

WEEK OF March 24

ECCC Phi Theta Kappa Inductees

Eighty-seven East Central Community College students were recently tapped for membership into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, during the spring induction ceremony held on the Decatur campus.

The purpose of Phi Theta Kappa is to promote scholarship, develop character and cultivate fellowship among academically superior students. Membership is by invitation only and requires a minimum 3.5 grade point average earned as a full-time student.

Joining the prestigious organization and their respective counties and hometowns are the following:

Leake County: Gwendolyn Crumbley, Britni Harvey, Aaron Mann, Lacey McMurry, Virginia Mitchell, Ashley Pigg and Emily Wooten, all of Carthage; and Brittany Harrison, Lena;

Neshoba County: Dekota Anthony, Laura Bain, Derek Crenshaw, Angel Crockett, Kenzie Gaines, Reagan Joyner, Patrick Patterson, Codee Russell, Corey Sharp, Casey Stokes, Stracy Svihla, Rebecca Watkins and Brandon Williams, all of Philadelphia;

Newton County: Myrial Brown, Keith Hollingsworth, Sondra Rasco and Hailey Walker, all of Newton; Austin Crouthers, Joshua Dickerson, Anna Ezell, Jessica Galloway, Anna Johnson, Daniel Johnson, Matthew Livingston, Kylie Rigdon, Amy Sharp, Amber Smith, Candace Vance and Krystle Wolverton, all of Union; Shaun Cooper, Calli Cumberland, Joy Hayes, Kyle Killens and Megan Munn, all of Decatur; April Dunavant, Sarah Eakes and Mary Lanier, all of Little Rock; Jonathan Federick and Ted Valentine, both of Hickory; Sidney Guiterrez, Chunky; Jessica Leach, Conehatta; and Amanda Hines, Lawrence;

Scott County: Diane Berthelette, Jessica Brown, Britanny Cushman, Stacey Rasco, Caitlin Slay and Tyler Walters, all of Forest; and Stacee McCurdy, Morton;

Winston County: Kayla Adcock, Lindsey Clark, Laken Morgan, Jacqueline Moore, Jeremy Sacier, Whitney Smith, Sherry Weeks, Anna White and Britni Wright, all of Louisville;

Out of district: Courtney Allbritton, Ethel; Joni Bozeman, DeKalb; Ruby Crew, Florence; Autumn Durant, Preston; Casey-Fitch-Randolph, Brandon; Kimberly Hearn, Timothy Maloney, Felisha Martin and Anna Switzer, all of Meridian; Rashima Jenkins, Bossier City, La.; Josh Lafferty, Quitman; Terry Lightheart, Canton; Matthew Naylor and Thomas Walker, both of Collinsville; and Gillian Poole, Kosciusko.

ECCC instructors Debbie Hammons and Bruce Guraedy serve as Theta Xi advisers.

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WEEK OF March 24

8 countians join ECCC honor group

Eight Leake County students were among 87 East Central Community College students recently tapped for membership into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa.

Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, is to promote scholarship, develop character and cultivate fellowship among academically superior students.

Membership is by invitation only and requires a minimum 3.5 grade point average earned as a full-time student.

Leake County students initiated into the chapter included Gwendolyn Crumbley, Britni Harvey, Aaron Mann, Lacey McMurry, Virginia Mitchell, Ashley Pigg and Emily Wooten, all of Carthage; and Brittany Harrison, Lena.

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WEEK OF March 24

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC SOPHOMORE BASKETBALL CHEERLEADERS HONORED

Sophomore basketball cheerleaders at East Central Community College were honored during "Sophomore Appreciation Night" held at the season-ending home basketball games Feb. 21 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus. Honorees, shown with family members, are Dustin Evans, Collins; Elaina James, Sylva Bay Academy; Adam Brown, Lake; Dru Anderson, Newton County: Austin McNair, Neshoba Central; Noah Cook, Newton County; and Phillip Vines, Neshoba Central. Huellen Watson serves as cheerleader sponsor.

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WEEK OF March 24

ECCC Centralettes

Sophomore members of the Centraletttes, the dance line for the East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Marching Band, were honored during "Sophomore Appreciation Night" held at the season-ending home basketball games Feb. 21 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building in Decatur. The group performs regularly during halftime activities of Lady Warrior and Warrior contests. From left are Latrice Waters and Kelly Kight, both of Nanih Waiya; Marty Bergin, Forest; Jordan Taylor, Central Academy; Courtney Elkins, Forest; Reagan Joyner, Neshoba Central; Brittany Germany, Union; and Carmen Ezell, Newton County. Nichol Hillman servers as Centralette coordinator/choreographer. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF March 24

Local students earn top honors at FBLA

From staff and reports

Several competitions were held during the 2008 Central District Conference of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) hosted by East Central Community College in Decatur.

Local members of the FBLA who participate through the Winston/Louisville Vocational Complex earned honors at the competitions.

The vision of Winston/Louisville Vocational Complex is to develop a technology enriched educational environment where each stakeholder has the opportunity to reach his or her maximum potential in a safe, clean, peaceful atmosphere.

FBLA-PBL is the largest business career student organization in the world. The high school division has 215,000 members.

FBLAs National Awards Program recognizes and rewards excellence in a broad range of business and career-related areas. Through state-based competition at the spring State Leadership Conferences, students compete in events testing their business knowledge and skills. Top state winners then are eligible to compete for honors at the National Leadership Conference each summer.

FBLA is headquartered in Reston, Virginia, and organized on local, state, and national levels. Business teachers, advisers, and advisory councils (including school officials, business people, and community representatives) guide local chapters.

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WEEK OF March 24

ECCC honors players

Sophomore Lady Basketball Warriors honored

Above are sophomore members of the East Central Community College women's basketball team who were honored during "Sophomore Appreciation Night" held at the season-ending home basketball games Feb. 21 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus. Honorees, shown with family members, include (from left) Chotsani Henderson (32) and Tawayatha Evans (31), both products of Newton High School; Jordan Patterson (25) of Aberdeen and Oak Hill Academy; Tanesha Brown (22), Jackson Provine; Carlena Clemmons, Union; Alisa Matlock, Carthage; and student assistants Courtney Miller of Louisville and Queena Gage of Scott Central. The Lady Warriors are led by head coach Bill Smith and assistant Blessing Chekwa. For more information visit www.eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF 3/17

ECCC band concert set for March 27

A variety of musical entertainment will be provided Thursday, March 27 when the East Central Community College Spring Band Concert is held on the Decatur campus.

The annual program begins at 7 p.m. in Huff Auditorium and features performances by the concert band, jazz band and percussion ensemble.

There is no charge for admission.

For more information contact Thomas W. Carson, director of bands, or Jared Brownlee, assistant director, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 228 or 306. The email addresses are tcarson@eccc.edu and jbrownlee@eccc.edu

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WEEK OF 3-9-08

Receives EC Art Scholarship East Central Community College art instructor Bruce Guraedy (right), who also serves as chairman of the Division of Fine Arts, recently presented art an scholarship to freshman Chris Buckley of Union. Buckley received an art service scholarship, a one-half tuition scholarship awarded to art majors who assist with set designs for theater productions, design layouts for art shows and other special programs and who serve as lab assistants for the art and ceramics labs on campus.

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WEEK OF 3-9-08

ECCC PHOTO

FBLA COMPETITION WINNERS

Forest/Scott County Career and Technology Center students (from left) Chance Hall and Sean Johnson received first-place honors in the Banking and Financial Systems competition held during the 2008 Central District Conference of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) hosted by East Central Community College in Decatur. Also pictured is Wayne Eason, ECCC Dean of Career and Technical Education.

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WEEK OF 3-9-08

Make the squad... get a full scholarship....

ECCC tryouts are slated

East Central Community College will hold tryouts for the 2008-09 Warrior Cheerleading Squad and Mascot on Saturday, March 22 at 9 a.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

Pre-tryout clinics will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, March 18 and from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, March 19 and are mandatory for all applicants. Optional open practices will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. on consecutive Sundays February 10 through March 16 in the South Campus Gym.

There is a $30 application fee for all participants, which includes tryout attire. Full tuition scholarships are available for all male and female cheerleaders selected.

For more information contact cheer coach Huellen Watson at 601-260-5345.

East Central will also hold tryouts for the Centralettes, the danceline for the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band, at 1 p.m. Wednesday, April 9 in the South Campus Gymnasium. A mandatory pre-tryout clinic will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, March 27. Only those auditioning may attend tryouts.

All Centralettes receive full tuition scholarships.

For more information, contact Thomas Carson, Director of Bands, at 601-635-6228.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WEEK OF 2-25-2008

ECCC campus locked down following death of student

The following statement was released Tuesday afternoon by East Central Community College in Decatur regarding a campus incident.

An investigation is continuing into the death of an East Central Community College student whose body was found in his dorm room this morning on the Decatur campus.

ECCC president Dr. Phil A. Sutphin said a preliminary report from the Mississippi Bureau of Investigation has indicated that the student died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

Dr. Sutphin said the victim's family has been notified and more details will be released at a later time.

"This is a very unfortunate incident and the College expresses its sympathies to the family," said Dr. Sutphin.

Following the incident, the College was placed on temporary lockdown. Classes have resumed as scheduled.

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WEEK OF 2-25-08

Jones accepts ECCC scholarship offer

Leake Academy senior Amanda Jones, seated, left, will extend her softball career at East Central Community College in the fall after accepting a scholarship offer. Joining Amanda when she signed the offer were her mother Joanne, seated, right, along with, standing, from left, her father Chip, ECCC coach Scott Hill and Leake Academy coach Ashley Falgout.

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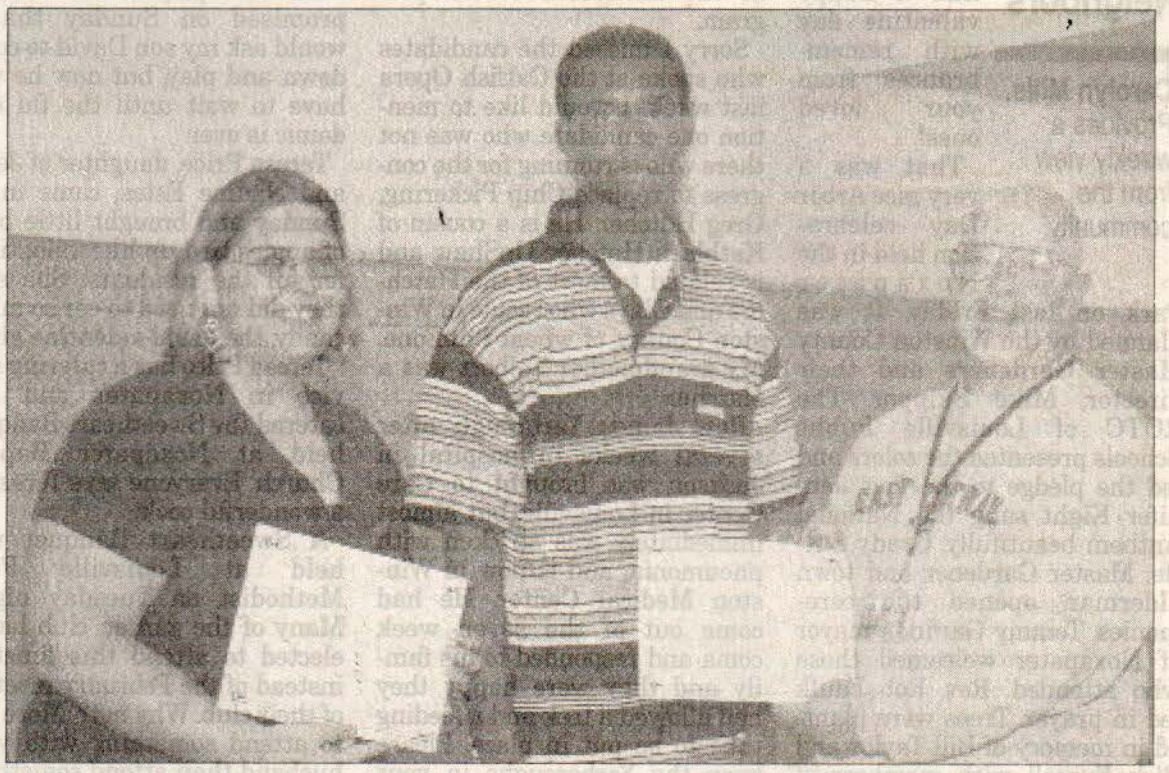
WEEK OF 2-18-08

Tollet and Buckley receive ECCC art scholarships



East Central Community College art instructor Bruce Guraedy (right), who also serves as chairman of the Division of Fine Arts, recently presented art scholarships to freshmen Brandi Tollett (left) of Louisville and Chris Buckley (center) of Union. Tollett received one of two full-tuition academic art scholarships, which are awarded each year to the art majors with the highest grade point averages after the first semester. Buckley received an art service scholarship, a one-half tuition scholarship awarded to art majors who assist with set designs for theater productions, design layouts for art shows and other special programs and who serve as lab assistants for the art and ceramics labs on campus. There are eight art service scholarships available each year.

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WEEK OF 2-18-08

Scholarships

ECCC awards art scholarships

East Central Community College art instructor Bruce Guraedy (left) recently presented scholarships to freshmen art majors (from left) Keia Eichelberger of Louisville, Holly McMullan of Taylorsville and Brad Reynolds of Noxapater. Eichelberger received an academic art scholarship which provides full tuition. She qualified for the scholarship by maintaining a 3.0 grade point average in art courses and a 2.0 GPA in other academic courses. McMullan and Reynolds were presented art service scholarships, which provides half-tuition. They were honored for their service in various campus projects. Tuition at ECCC is $700 per semester

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WEEK OF 2-18-08

ECCC Cheerleader Tryouts Scheduled March 22

East Central Community College will hold tryouts for the 2008-09 Warrior Cheerleading Squad and Mascot on Saturday, March 22 at 9 a.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus.

Pre-tryout clinics will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, March 18 and from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, March 19 and are mandatory for all applicants. Optional open practices will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. on consecutive Sundays February 10 through March 16 in the South Campus Gym.

There is a $30 nonrefundable application fee for all participants, which includes tryout attire. Full tuition scholarships are available for all male and female cheerleaders selected for the squad and one mascot.

For more information contact cheer coach Huellen Watson at 601-260-5345. The email address is huellen@yahoo.com.

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WEEK OF 2-18-2008

EC Centralette tryouts set for April 1

East Central Community College will hold tryouts for the Centralettes, the danceline for the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band, at 1 p.m. Wednesday, April 9, in the South Campus Gymnasium. A mandatory pre-tryout clinic will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, March 27. Only those auditioning may attend tryouts.

All Centralettes receive full tuition scholarships.

For more information, contact Thomas Carson, Director of Bands, at 601-635-6228. The email address is tcarson@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

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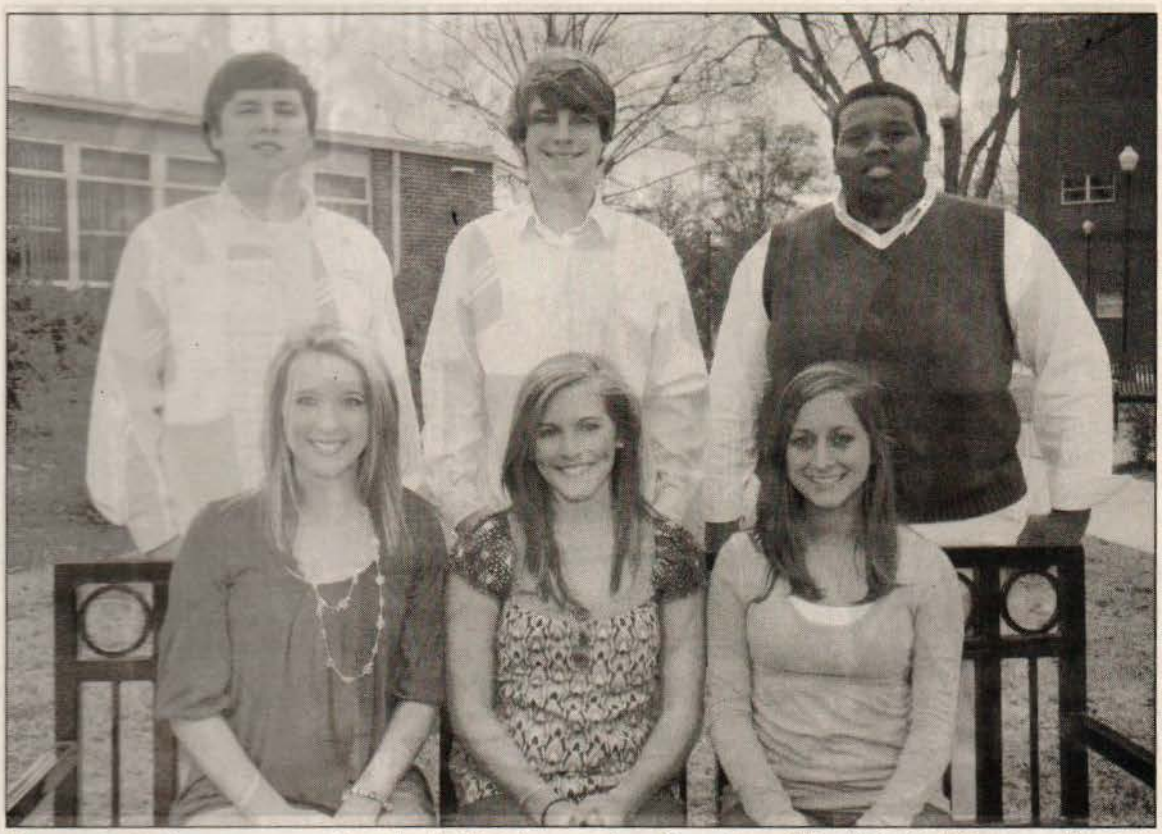
WEEK OF 2-18-2008

ECCC selects Freshman favorites



These students were recently selected freshman class favorites at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (seated, from left) Tiffany Thomas of Noxapater, Emily Thrash of Sebastopol and Calli Cumberland of Decatur; and (standing, from left) Kyle Killens of Decatur, Peter Peterson of Louisville and Austin Crouthers of Union.

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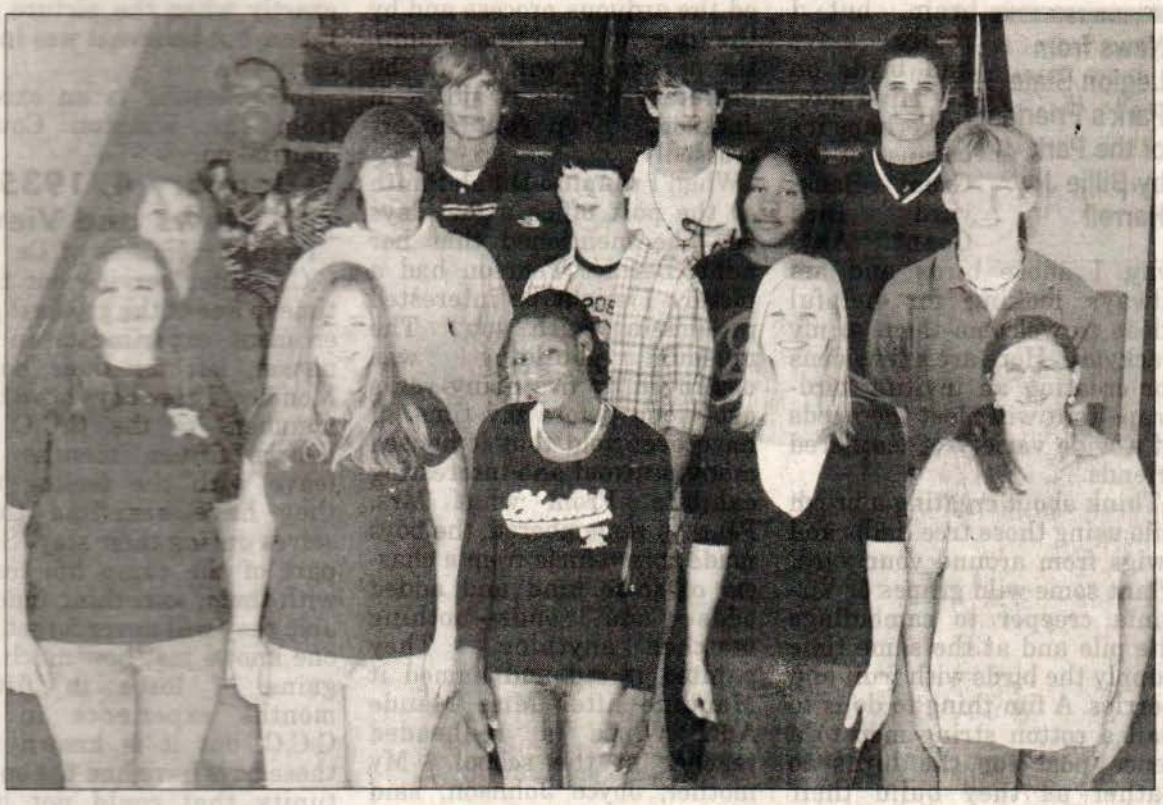
WEEK OF 2-18-08

ECCC band chooses first chair



These students were recently selected First Chair, First Band during the annual East Central Community College Band Clinic held on the Decatur campus. ECCC Director of Bands Thomas Carson, who hosts the event, said 180 students participated this year. Pictured are (front row, from left) Sarah Quates, flute, and Jessica Cherry, clarinet, both of Carthage; Ashley Hughes, contra alto, Louisville; Madeline Logan, mallets, Newton; and Ruby Stewart, baritone, Neshoba Central; (second row, from left) Meagan Graham, trombone, Union; Jason Mann, tuba, Newton County; Austin Mauney, trumpet, Morton; Mariah Morgan, alto sax, Neshoba Central; and Caleb Raines, bass clarinet, Newton County; and (back row, from left) Dean McClendon, French horn, Scott Central; Josh Sessums, percussion, Philadelphia; Tot Sims, tenor sax, Neshoba Central; and John Clifton Pope, bari sax, Neshoba Central.

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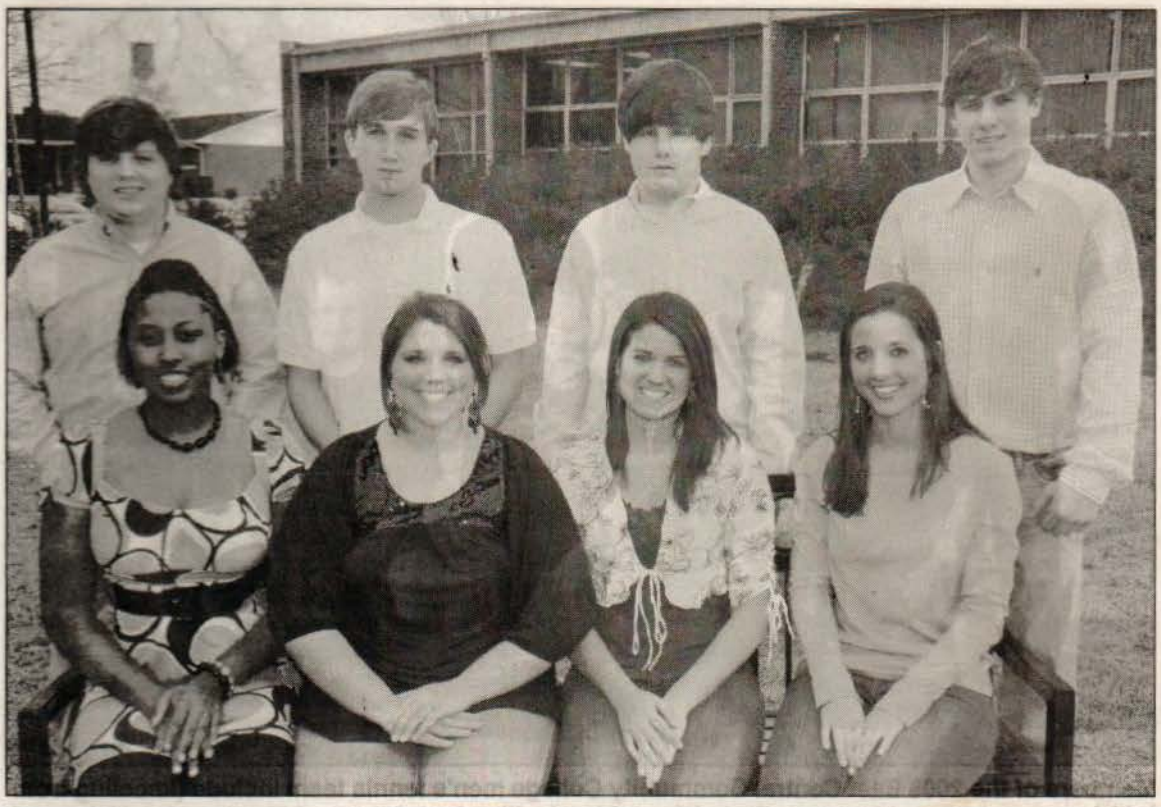
WEEK OF 2-18-2008

ECCC selects Sophomore favorites



These students were recently selected sophomore class favorites at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (seated, from left) Cortney Miller and Amber Eaves, both of Louisville; Brookes Mayes of Newton and Dru Anderson of Decatur; and (standing, from left) Trenton Cockrell of Louisville, McClain Mullins of Tupelo, Tyler McCool of Louisville and Austin McNair of Philadelphia.

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WEEK OF Feb. 4

ECCC Environmental Club...Members of the East Central Community College Environmental Club for the 2007-08 term include (front row, from left) advisers and science instructors Curt Skipper, Sharon LeJeune and Joe Johnson (division chairman); (second row, from left) Ryan Loper of Decatur, Amber Eaves of Lousiville, Cheryll Dowell, Lorie Jenkins, Britni Harvey and India Dickerson, all of Carthage; Rebecca Watkins of Philadelphia and Sandy Penn of Forest; (third row, from left) Melanie Eaves and Nichole Ball, both of Louisville; Tanika Robinson and Teresa Gibbs, both of Forest; Latasha Watkins of Sebastopol, Amanda Jones of Decatur, Kolby Sisson of Noxapapter and Annie Strohm of Morton; and (third row, from left) Tim Seibel of Lawrence, Tim Zetterholm of Byram and Caiti Slay of Forest. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF Jan. 21

EC nursing delegates

East Central Community College associate degree nursing students representing ASNEC (Association of Student Nurses at East Central) during the Mississippi Association of Student Nurses (MASN) convention were (seated, from left) Abby Yates of Philadelphia, Traci Wilson of Carthage and Haley Fisher of Sebastopol; and (standing, from left) Kristi Stapp of Louisville, DeAna Morrow, Gillian Poole and Rachel Chappell, all of Philadelphia; and Courtney Townsend of Forest. Nursing instructors Nan Anderson and Christy Savell serve as ASNEC sponsors.

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ASNEC officers at ECCC

Students currently serving as officers of the Association of Student Nurses at East Central Community College are (from left) president Gillian Poole of Philadelphia, vice president Doug Kelley of Sebastopol, secretary India Curry of Bay Springs, treasurer Kristi Stapp of Louisville and reporter Traci Wilson of Carthage. Nursing instructors Nan Anderson and Christy Savell serve as sponsors.

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WEEK OF Jan. 14

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ECCC Phi Theta Kappa officers

East Central Community College students serving as officers for Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, include (first row, from left) Suzanne Henry of Decatur, membership co-chairperson; Elaina James of Montrose, scrapbook committee; Ashley Henley of Hickory, vice president of scholarship ; and Joseph Cieglo of Lake, vice president of fellowship; (second row, from left) Drew Gillis of Decatur, vice president of service; Cheryl Dowell of Lena, scrapbook committee; Amber Eaves of Louisville, treasurer; and Jonathan Jackson of Hickory, membership co-chairperson; (third row, from left) Valerie Johnson of Louisville, secretary; Delynn Agee of Choctaw, vice president of leadership; Leslie Nash of Philadelphia, photographer; and Beth Alexander of Little Rock, president; and (top row, from left) advisers Debbie Hammons and Bruce Guraedy.

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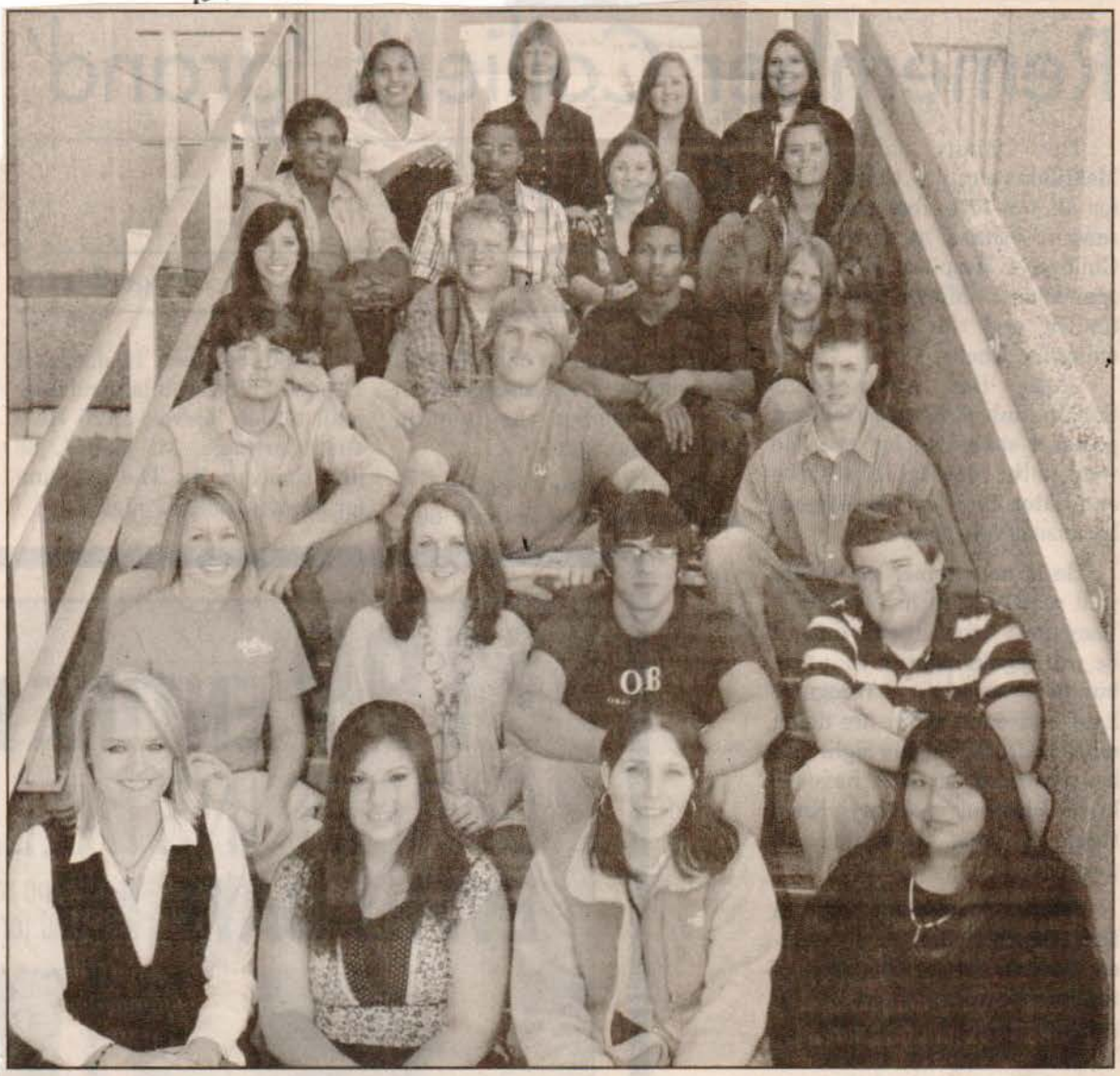
organizations / clubs WEEK OF Jan. 14



ECCC PTK inductees, officers

New members and officers of East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, are shown following a recent induction ceremony held in Burton Library on the Decatur campus. First row, from left, are inductees Candy Ezelle and Amneris Avalos, both of Morton; Kyrstin Hall of Louisville and Diana Hickman of Choctaw; (second row, from left) inductees Caitlin Harper of Decatur, Jennifer Sistrunk of Carthage, Noah Cook of Hickory and Matthew Anthony of Philadelphia; (third row, from left) inductee Ryan Reeves, Forest; Joseph Cieglo of Lake, vice president of fellowship; and inductee Brent Barton, Forest; (fourth row, from left) Ashley Henley of Hickory, vice president of scholarship; Drew Gillis of Decatur, vice president of service; inductees Marcus Lee of Morton and Candace Long of Union; (fifth row, from left) Leslie Nash of Philadelphia, photographer; Jonathan Jackson of Hickory, membership co-chairperson; Elaina James of Montrose, scrapbook committee; and Valerie Johnson of Louisville, secretary; and (top row, from left) Delynn Agee of Choctaw, vice president of leadership; adviser Debbie Hammons; Beth Alexander of Little Rock, president; and Amber Eaves of Louisville, treasurer. Officers not pictured are Suzanne Henry of Decatur, membership co-chairperson, and Cheryl Dowell of Lena, scrapbook committee. Also not pictured is adviser Bruce Guraedy.

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ECCC announces fall semester honor roll

Students named to the 2007 fall semester honor roll, which includes those selected to the President's List, Dean's List and Honorable Mention List, have been announced at East Central Community College in Decatur, according to Donna Luke, Director of Admissions, Records and Research.

PRESIDENT'S LIST

President's list, students with a 4.0 grade point average.

CHUNKY: Caleb Scott Frink

CONEHATTA: Heather Nichole Bounds, Angela Anne Jordan and Mason Lee Mingo

DECATUR: Ashley Dru Anderson, Joseph Kyle Barrett, Russell Jordan Clark, Shaun Michael Cooper, Cora Jean Crawford, Caitlin Lee Harper, James Shelby Hattaway, Joy Lynn Hayes, Apryl Suzanne Henry, Whitney Suzanne Knight, Mindy Caral Parker, Karen E. Porter and Crystal Megan Shoemaker

HICKORY: Ashley Nicole Henley and Jennifer Caitlin Smith

LAWRENCE: Melissa Ann Rowell

LITTLE ROCK: Sarah Allison Eakes

NEWTON: Rustin S. Godwin, Lolita Renee Jordan, Matt Gardner Mason, Joshua Webb Moore, Amanda Laine Shaffer, Skye Nichole Tindall and Joaquinta Shaunte Watts

UNION: Melissa Carol Adkins, Joshua O'Neil Dickerson, Anna Laurie Ezelle, Tyler Cameron Hansford, Anna Elizabeth Johnson, Daniel Hunter Johnson, Kyle David Keady, Matthew Ryan Livingston, Emily Paige Thrash and Krystle Elyse Wolverton

DEAN'S LIST

Dean's list students achieved a 3.5 or above gpa.

CHUNKY: Sidney S. Gutierrez and Jana Nicole Johnson

CONEHATTA: Kimberly Denise Anderson, Richardson L. Chickaway and Jessica Leanne Leach

DECATUR: Yentl Carolette Brantley, Calli Leigh Cumberland, Latasha Narkeyda Hall, Sarah Rebecca Henry, Carol Lynn Johnson, Joseph Kyle Killens, Fredrick Franklin Lyons, Joseph M. McDonald, Megan Clarice Munn, Joshua Kyle Pender, Brittany Michelle Tyson and Chelsey Luann Vincent

HICKORY: Jonathan Kent Federick, Jonathan Leshaun Jackson, Rodney Dale Parker and Brandon Cody Williams

LAKE: Brandi Renee Gray and Dollye Bilbro Packer

LITTLE ROCK: Carole Beth Alexander, April Nicole Dunavant, Mary Emilee Lanier, Joshua Nathan Sheehan, Tegan Rebekkah Ward and Robert Bailey Westbrook

NEWTON: Jack Anthony Anderson, O'Darrean Sedale Brown, Tawayatha Tanielle Evans, Drew Morgan Gillis, Keith Jared Hollingsworth, Rhonda Sue May, Tawanna Shevette McDaniel, Sharonda Lenise Moore, Sandra C. Pruitt, David Allen Pugh, Sandra Deniese Rasco and Hailey Christine Walker

UNION: Kriston Brooke Barrett, Austin Lee Crouthers, Steven Kory Culpepper, Jessica Lynn Galloway, Jacob Alexander Massey, Leslie Sheresse Nash, Tammy Lynn Plaisance, Kylie Dates Rigdon, Darneisha Sade Sanders, Amy Elizabeth Sharp, Amber Leigh Smith, Karen Alice Smith, Amanda Leigh Spears, Candace Nicole Vance and Kerri Shea Withers

HONORABLE MENTION

Honorable mention students earned a 3.0 or above gpa.

CHUNKY: Reva Shea Coate and Susan Dana Maxwell

CONEHATTA: Kelby Dene Anderson, Rodgrick Lamar Anderson, Jill Christine Compton, Sharayah Elaine Grant, Kanedra Latoya Lampkin, Ashley Nicole May, Robert Logan McDonald, Shelby Dwight Shelley and Shawntye Nicole Vaughn

DECATUR: Carl M. Adkins, Cindy Rennia Chesney, Dustin Wayne Evans, Christy Lynne Ezell, Doris Ann Frith, Hunter Thomas Hayes, Francesca Marsay Hussey, Maegan Leigh Johnston, Philip Deante Jordan, Theressa Flint Killens, Samuel Fox Lewis, Andrew David Marshall, Connie Elizabeth Parker, Kristen L. Pillsbury, Rachael Renae Rainer, Lindsey Brooke Stevens, Brandon Scott Thomas, Pamela Townsend and William Riley Walton

HICKORY: Noah Travis Cook, Shardae Marquett Foley, Cecily Necole Granger and Angela Gail Valentine

LAKE: Santigous Nicole Culpepper, Margo Dewayne Everett, Alexander O'Neil Gray, Ryan William Monk, Markis A. Pinkston, April Denise Smith, Marcus Heath Street, Juley Elizabeth Taylor and Laura Reshelle Williams

LAWRENCE: Wyneda Markeda McLaurin

LITTLE ROCK: Andrew Kennith Harrison, Michael Thomas Skinner and Roger Thomas Strange

NEWTON: Lashaunda Michelle Bobbett, Monica Dieanea Drummond, Marvin Flucker Jr., Haylee Holden Haralson, Chotsani S. Henderson, Nahamani Rashun Henderson, John Curtis Little, Angel Christina Lyons, Brookes Anne Mayes, Myranda L. McDonald, Mark Gibson McEachern, Jonathan Monroe Moore, Rena F. Robinson, Benjamin Bounds Thames, Holly Kathleen Tullos and Krystle Michelle Walker

UNION: Dennis Jay Anderson Jr., Penny Darlene Beckham, Kendall Jordan Boler, Jess Martin Brantley, Christopher Lewis Buckley, Jennifer Marie Coghlan, Tiffanie Mae Credille, William Joseph Cunningham, Jmarkus Johnkese Dubose, Jerome R Evans, Jayme Todd Ferguson, Melissa Misty Ferguson, Sabra Nicole Fortenberry, Brittany Leigh Germany, Sara Olivia Goss, Shannon McDonald Harrison, Laura Mae Hickman, Aubrie Elise Howell, Kenneth Darryl Hudson, Jennifer Magan Key, Shellie G. Keyes, Cynthia Darlene Ledlow, Sean Tyler McElfish, Tyler Glenn Nicholson, Tiffany Regan Quick, Richard Kevin Rickles, Justin Wade Rushing, Derek Arizona Shannon, William Taylor Smith, Jessica Lauren Stamper, April Finton Strickland, Treasure Laura'Anna Vance, Casey L. White and Victoria Denise York

WEEK OF Jan. 7

Registration Continues For

Registration continues for online courses offered at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Dr. Chris Jenkins, dean of distance learning.

Prior to registration, all first-time online students are required to complete the Distance Learning Orientation located on the College's web site, www.eccc.edu.

"Instructions on how to register are located on the EC website under Distance Learning," Dr. Jenkins explained. "Registration ends on January 11 and classes begin on January 14."

Tuition for online courses is $75 per semester hour. Other costs include a $2 per hour technology fee, a $3 per hour registration fee and $20 is applied per online course. A three-hour course costs $260 plus a $3 ID fee, if applicable.

ECCC's online courses – offered as part of the Mississippi Virtual Community College – are as follows:

Principles of Accounting, Art Appreciation, Introduction to Business, Legal Environment of Business, General Biology I and Lab, General Biology II and Lab, Nutrition, Human Anatomy and Physiology I and Lab, Human Anatomy and Physiology II and Lab, Document Formatting and Production, Applied Business Mathematics, Business Accounting, Machine Transcription

Medical Terminology I, Medical Terminology II, Mechanics of Communication, Computerized Accounting, Integrated Computer Applications, Child Development II, Nutrition for Young Children, Fundamentals of Data Communications, Visual Basic Programming Language, Web Development Concepts, Career Development, Intro to Computer

ECCC Online Courses

Concepts.

Principles of Economics I (Macroeconomics), Principles of Economics II (Microeconomics), College Study Skills, English Composition I, English Composition II, Developmental English II, American Literature I, American Literature II, English Literature I, World Literature II, American History I, American History II,

Personal Community Health, First Aid and CPR, Athletic Training and Treatment of Injuries, Restaurant and Catering Operations, Intermediate Algebra, College Algebra, Geometry and Measurement, Music Appreciation, Fundamentals of Music, Physical Science Survey I and Lab, American National Government, American State and Local Government, General Psychology and Oral Communication.

For more information contact Dr. Chris Jenkins, ECCC Dean of Distance Learning, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 322.ail address is cjenkins@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

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ECCC PHOTO

ECCC STUDENTS PROVIDE CHRISTMAS GIFTS

East Central Community Colleges students Kim Edwards (left) of Philadelphia and Kristen Alsup of Little Rock and are shown preparing Christmas gifts for delivery to residents of Care Lodge in Meridian. Stockings full of goodies were also provided for every child at the facility. Alsup and Edwards are members of Phi Beta Lambda which adopted the center for victims of domestic violence as a community project. Alsup serves as parliamentarian for PBL, an organization for business students. Phi Beta Lambda members also provided personal care items for Care Lodge residents at Thanksgiving. Club members are also collecting used cell phones which will be reprogrammed for use by Care Lodge residents. For more information contact PBL adviser Ruth Gregory, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 252. The email address is rgregory@eccc.edu.

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ECCC Faculty Memorial Award recipients

These students received Faculty Memorial awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 1 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include (seated, from left) Candace Long of Union, J. Wallace Bedwell Business and Ruth Hull Wo-He-Lo yearbook; Britni Wright of Louisville, Ruth Hull Wo-He-Lo yearbook; Annie Strohm of Morton, Frank M. Cross Freshman Chemistry; and Amber Eaves of Louisville, Aaron R. Davis Memorial; and (back row, from left) Daniel Johnson of Union, Shelby L. Harris Memorial; Andy Ishee of Louin, O.L. Newell Drafting; and Dollye Packer of Lake, Charles E. Pennington Business Technology. Not pictured are Aaron Mann of Carthage, Robert G. Fick Memorial Music; Jordan Clark of Decatur, Frank Edwin and Nena Holt Leatherwood Biology Science; James D. Smith of Forest, J. Andy Miller Freshman Engineering; Shaun Cooper of Decatur, General William Patrick Wilson Academic and L.B. Simmons History; and Emily Thrash of Sebastopol, Leon Eubanks Kaljyc-Peers.

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVES SIGREST SCHOLARSHIP

East Central Community College sophomore Brittany Cushman (left) of Forest is the recipient of the Elva Smith Sigrest Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was endowed by family members in the fall of 2006 in memory of Mrs. Sigrest. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director Ramonica Evans. The award was presented during the Colleges annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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ECCC Phi Theta Kappa helping to fight litter

SUBMITTED PHOTO

These members of East Central Community College's Phi Theta Kappa chapter are doing their part to help battle the litter problem in Mississippi by placing trash bags and informative flyers on vehicle windshields throughout the Decatur campus. The flyers contain information on Mississippi litter statistics and how individuals can help correct the growing problem in the state.

The three students — (from left) Theta Xi chapter members Caiti Slay of Forest, Shaun Cooper of Decatur and Matt Naylor of Collinsville along with adviser Kate Covich — placed approximately 100 trash bags, which were provided by the Mississippi Department of Transportation. Naylor researched information for the effort and served as project leader.

The ECCC chapter tagged "InfoTrash" as its theme for the project in association with the International Phi Theta Kappa clean-up effort, "Operation Green: Improving Our Communities."

Phi Theta Kappa is the international honor society for two-year colleges.

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Awards

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC SPECIAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

These students were among those receiving special awards during the annual East Central Community College Awards Day ceremonies held May 1 in Huff Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Students and their respective awards include (seated, from left) Mallory Thompson-Young of Louisville, Myrtle R. Hutchison Elementary Education Award; Tammy Plaisance of Union and Brooke Barrett of Sebastopol, Mississippi Business Educators Association student awards; and McClain Mullins of Tupelo and Skye Tindall of Newton, Roy Pete Awards for Soccer; and (back row, from left) Patricia Vasquez of Lena, Mississippi Community College Creative Writing Association award; Robby Pierce of Lawrence, Alford J. Deaton Physics Award; and Dru Anderson of Decatur, Joseph Cieglo of Forest and Whitnee White of Philadelphia, Walter Arno Vincent Award for Academic Excellence in Athletics. Not pictured are Angela Pires of Philadelphia, Mississippi Community College Creative Writing Association award; Shaun Cooper of Decatur, Margaret Mosal Award for Leadership and Ann Burkes Phi Theta Kappa; Sabra Fortenberry of Union and Kimberly Hearn of Meridian, Mississippi Business Educators Association student awards; and Des Morales of Lake, Anthony Coleman Mens Basketball Award.

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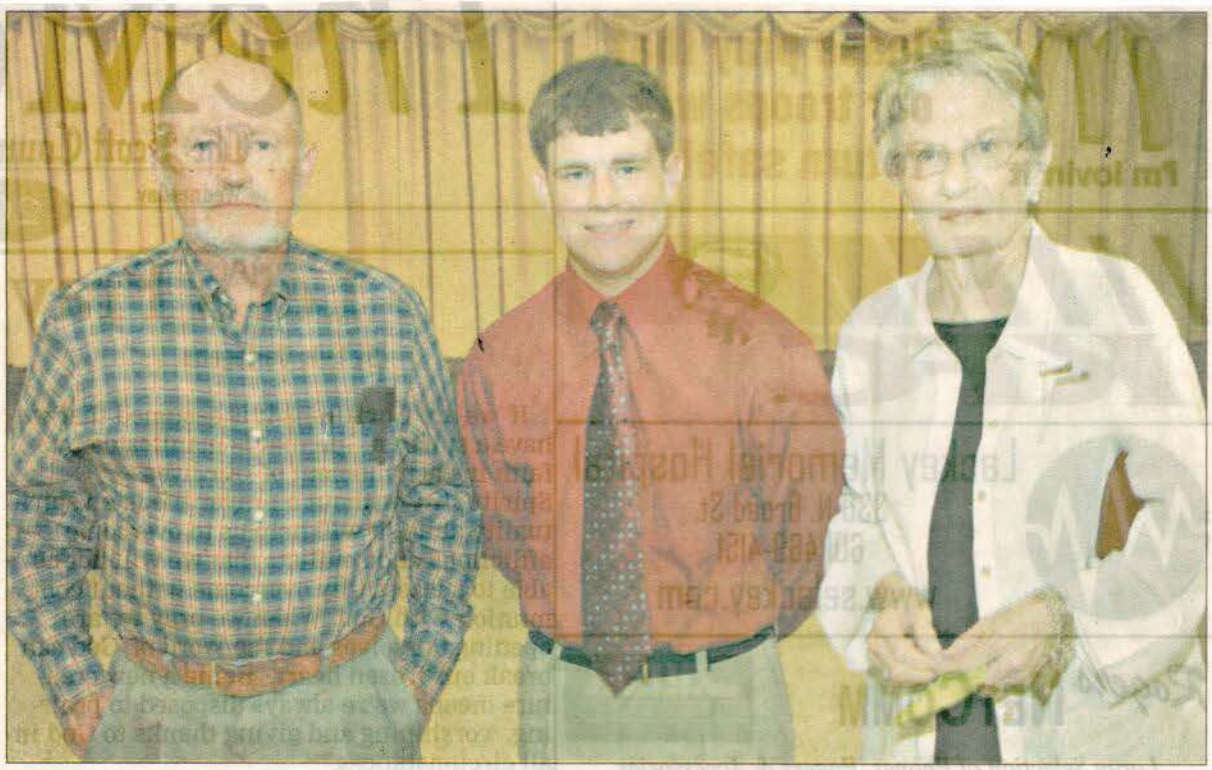

ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVES WEEMS FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP AT ECCC

John Ellis Pinkard (center), a 2008 graduate of Carthage High School, is the recipient of the Weems Family Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship was established in 2001 to commemorate the historical roles of the Weems family of Scott County as members of the faculty, Board of Trustees and student body at ECCC. Representing the donors are David Weems (left) and Patsy Wilkerson. The awards were presented during the Colleges annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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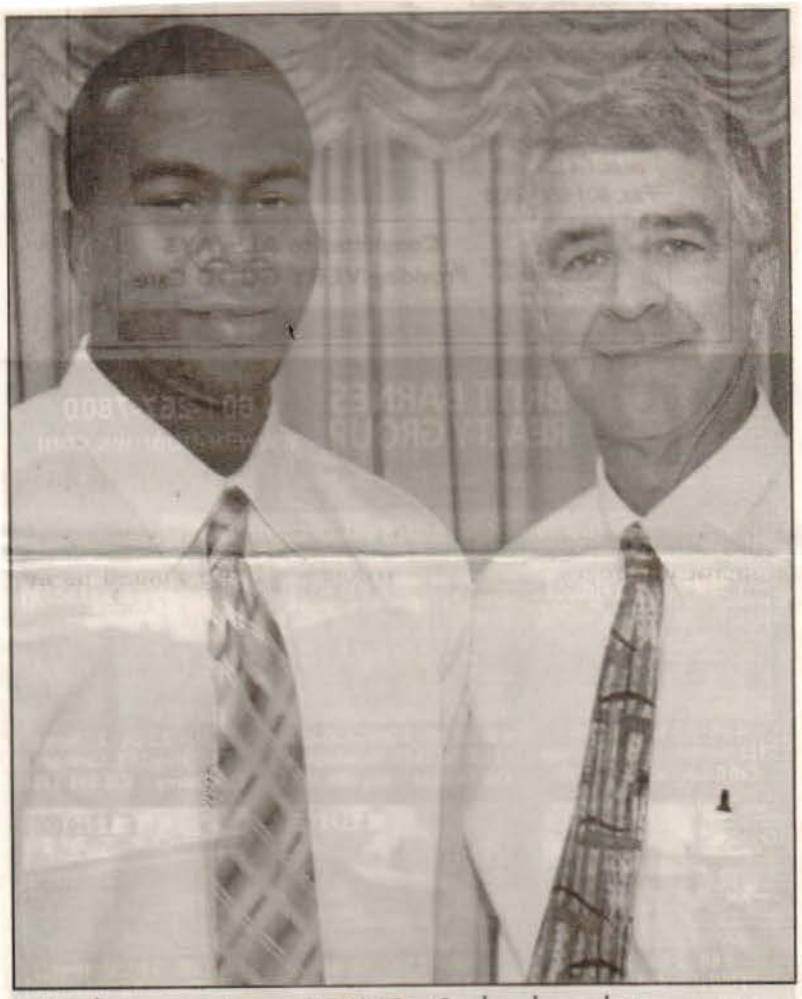

Hudson wins ATCO Scholarship

Courtney Hudson, left, a 2008 graduate of South Leake High School, was recently named as the winner of the ATCO Loan Scholarship in ceremonies held at East Central Community College. The scholarship was established in 1995 by James McRae, right, of ATCO.

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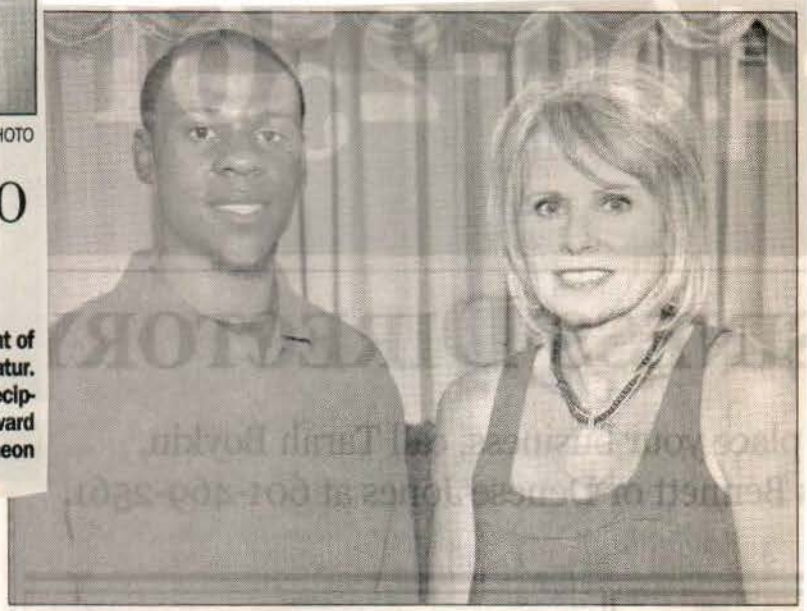
ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVES JACK AND MARY JO WHITE SCHOLARSHIP

Hannah Watkins (left), a 2008 graduate of Sebastopol High School, is the recipient of the Jack and Mary Jo White Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Mr. White is a former auto mechanics instructor at the College. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director Ramonica Evans. The award was presented during the Colleges annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.



ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVES RIGBY SCHOLARSHIP

Cody Barber (left), a 2008 graduate of Forest High School, is the recipient of the 2008 Regina Gail Gibbs Rigby Scholarship at East Central Community College. This scholarship was endowed in 2006 in memory of Mrs. Rigby by her husband, Bill, and their children Ginny Rigby Ivy and Anse Rigby. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC academic counselor Lanette Hanna. The award was presented during the Colleges annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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RECEIVES VICKERS SCHOLARSHIP: Elise Gibbs (left), a 2008 graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the Ovid S. and Carol Vickers Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 1999 by former students and friends of the Vickers to honor their lifetime devotion to East Central. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC academic counselor Lanette Hanna. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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RECEIVES VINCENT SCHOLARSHIP: Lacey Gilmore (left), a 2008 graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the Arno and Ruth Carr Vincent Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 1999 in recognition of the former President and First Lady of the College who served from 1953-1962. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director Ramonica Evans. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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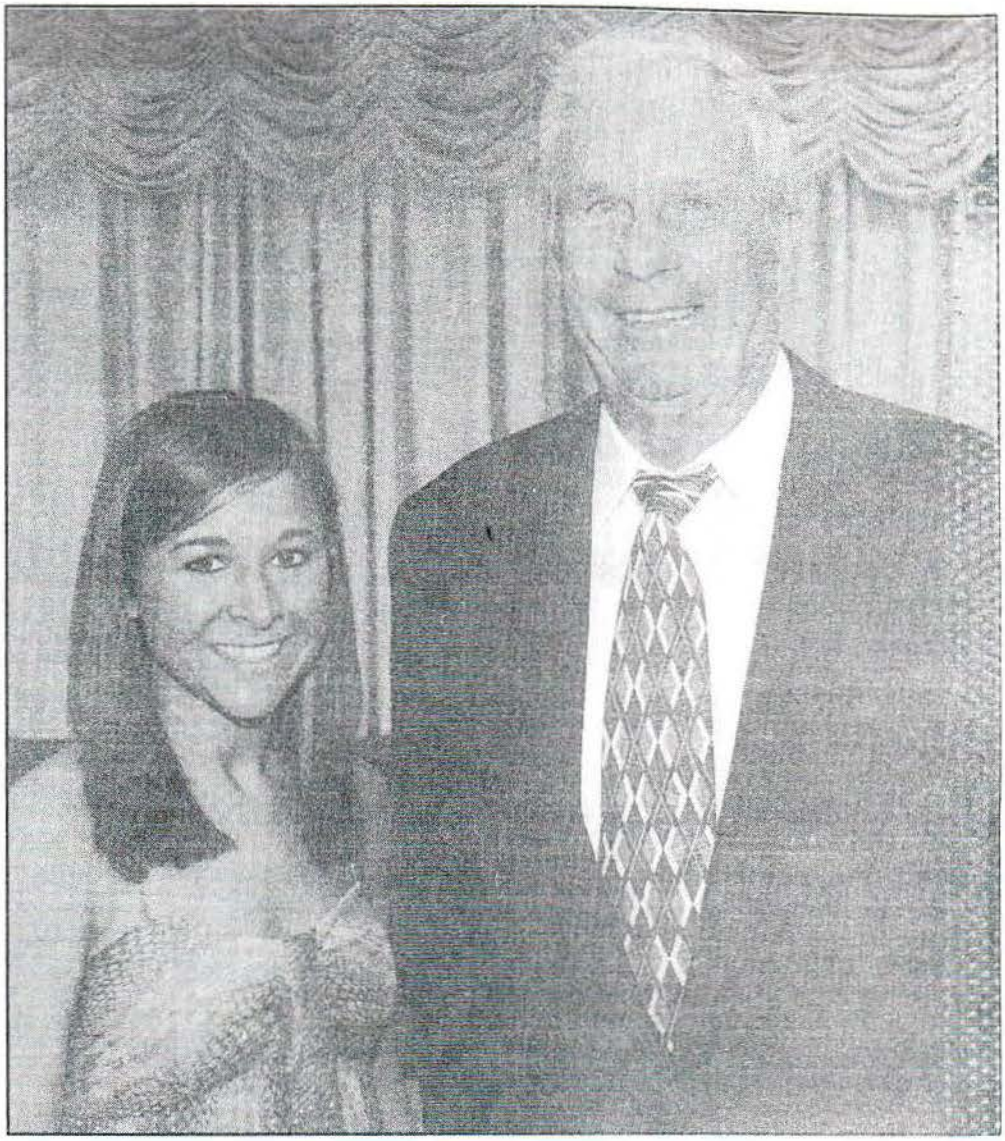

RECEIVES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION EC SCHOLARS SCHOLARSHIP: Newton County High School graduate Adrienne McDill (left) is the 2008 recipient of an EC Scholars Scholarship awarded by the East Central Community College Alumni Association. Established by the College in 1999, individuals, businesses or groups can supply these scholarships, presented to students who are in the top 10 percent of their class. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC Alumni Association president Harvey Trapp of Newton. The award was presented during the College's annual Scholarship Awards Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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Scholarships

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RECEIVES THRASH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP: East Central Community College sophomore Sidney Gutierrez (left) of Chunky is the recipient of the Thomas W. Thrash Memorial Scholarship, endowed in 2002 by the family and friends of the longtime ECCC instructor. Pictured with the recipient is Mr. Thrash's widow, Jeanette Thrash. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVE MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF SUPERVISORS SCHOLARSHIPS

Recipients of the 2008 Mississippi Association of Supervisors Scholarships at East Central Community College in Decatur and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) Tabatha Shay Adcock, Neshoba Central; Brittany Cameron, Morton; Kayla Dewberry, Nanih Waiya; Ashley Dumas, Newton County; and Danielle Knotts, Nanih Waiya; and (standing, from left) Will McBeth, Leake Academy; Cody Walters, Forest; and Jodie Walters, Union. Also pictured and representing the district supervisors are Charles Moulds (standing, second from right), president of the Newton County Board of Supervisors, and Harold Reynolds (standing, right), president of the Neshoba County Board of Supervisors. Recipients not pictured are Tiffany Lowery, Sebastopol High School, and Emily Pace, Newton County High School. These scholarships were established in 1996 by the State Association of Supervisors. The awards were presented during the Colleges annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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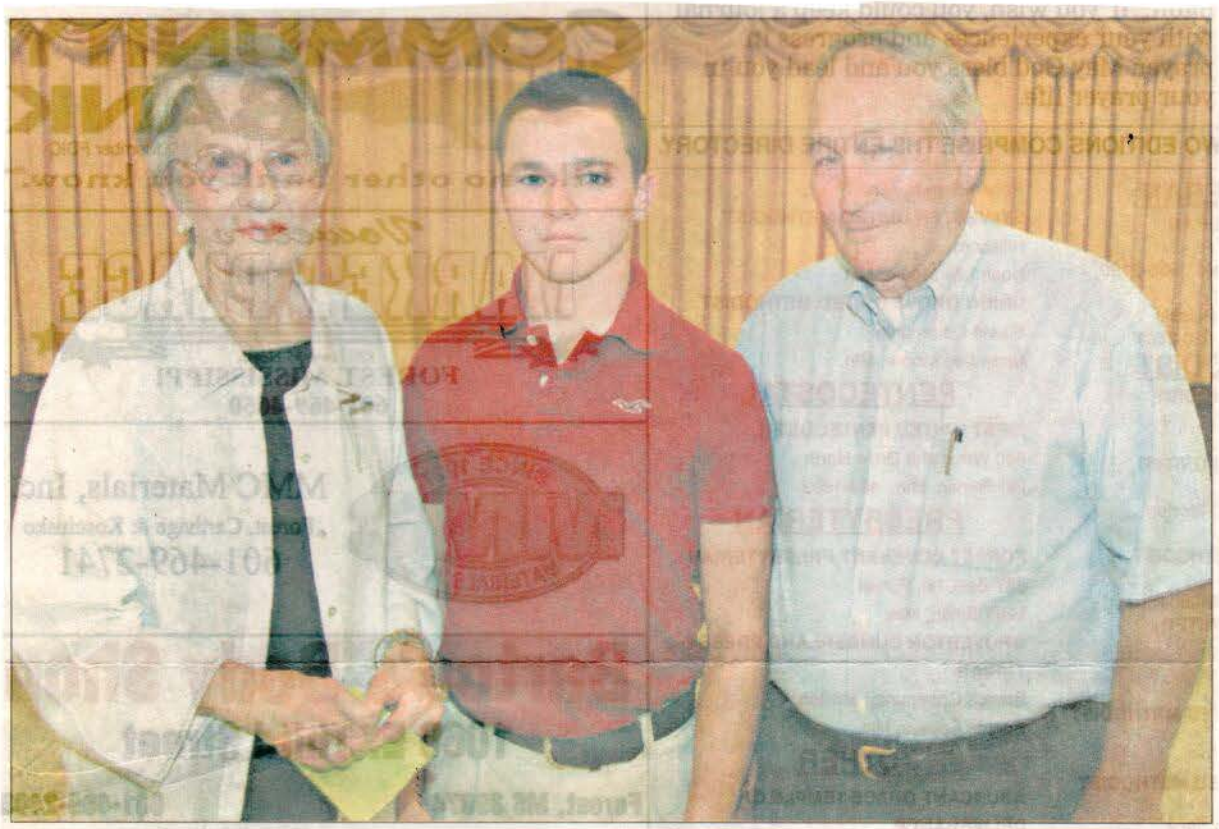

ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVES WILKERSON SCHOLARSHIP

Cody Taylor (center), a 2008 graduate of Lake High School, is the recipient of the 2008 Bob Wilkerson Memorial Vo-Tech Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured with the recipient are Patsy (left) and Robert Wilkerson, who established the scholarship in 2003 in memory of their son, Bob, a graduate of Forest High School. The award was presented during the Colleges annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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East Central Scholarship recipents

These four students were among those who received scholarships during East Central Community Sollege's AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photos)

Jason Hancock, a 2008 graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the Charles E. Ward Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College. The scholarship was established in 2003 by Mr. Ward's widow, Gail Ward (left), and their three sons, Roger, Mike and David Ward.

Krista Thrash, a 2008 graduate of Union High School, is the recipient of the R.O. and Bertha Hannah Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship was established in 1991 by the four sons of R.O. and Bertha Hannah, all of whom attended East Central.

Sophomore Daniel Johnson of Union is the recipient of the Dr. Shelby Harris Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 2002 in memory of Dr. Shelby Harris by the ECCC mathematics and computer science division, along with other faculty and staff members and friends.

Newton County High School graduate Racheal Addy is the recipient of the 2008 T.T. Beemon Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The Beemon scholarship was established in 2001 by T.T. Beemon, ECCC Class of 1937, and his wife, the former Mary Emma Fancher.

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Duncan Signs Up for ECCC Classes

Ben Duncan (left) of Philadelphia was among area students who attended the June 26 orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. He is shown with Romonica Evans, recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director, who provided assistance to the Philadelphia High School graduate in preparing his fall semester class schedule. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Wednesday, July 16 and Friday, August 15. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 21. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

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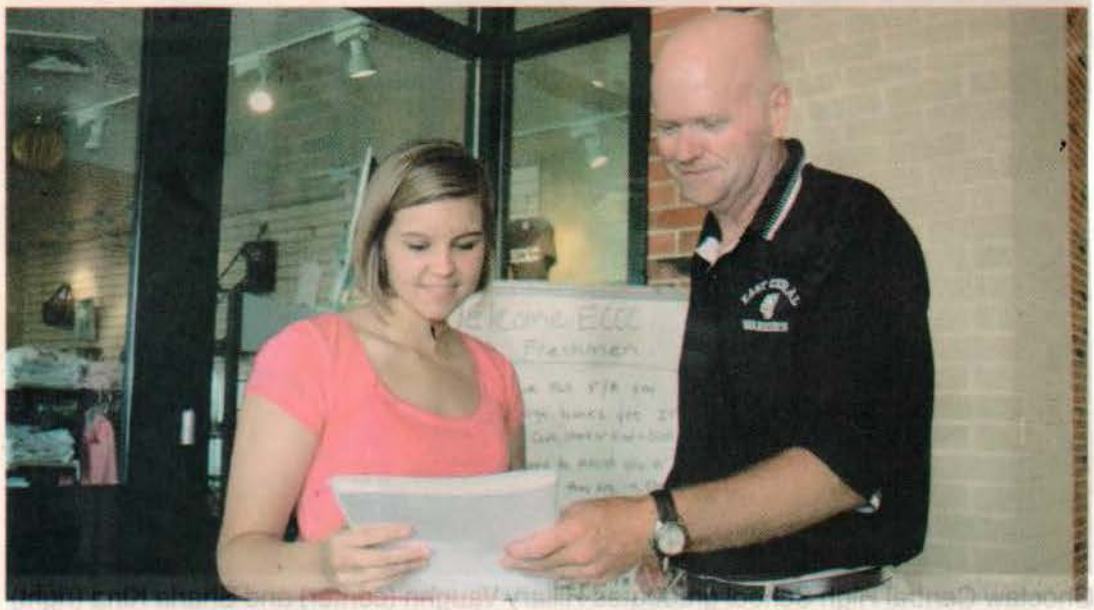
Bryan Registers for ECCC Classes



Crystal Bryan (left) of Philadelphia was among area students who attended the June 26 orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. She is shown with Joe Killens, vice president for student services, who provided assistance to the Neshoba Central High School graduate in preparing her fall semester class schedule. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Wednesday, July 16 and Friday, August 15. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 21. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

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Choctaw Central Pair Attends ECCC Orientation

Choctaw Central High School graduates Hillary Vaughn (center) and Sharla King (right) were among area students who attended the June 26 orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. They are shown with academic counselor Lanette Hanna who provided assistance to the incoming freshmen in preparing class schedules for the 2008 fall semester. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Wednesday, July 16 and Friday, August 15. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 21. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

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FELTON ATTENDS ECCC ORIENTATION: Brian Felton (left), a 2008 graduate of Newton County High School, was among area students who attended the May 30 Orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Helping him prepare his fall class schedule is ECCC oral communication instructor Kate Keenan. In addition to registering for fall classes, students can learn about the various opportunities available on the EC campus Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Saturday, June 7; Thursday, June 26; Wednesday, July 16; and Friday, August 15. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 21. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205.

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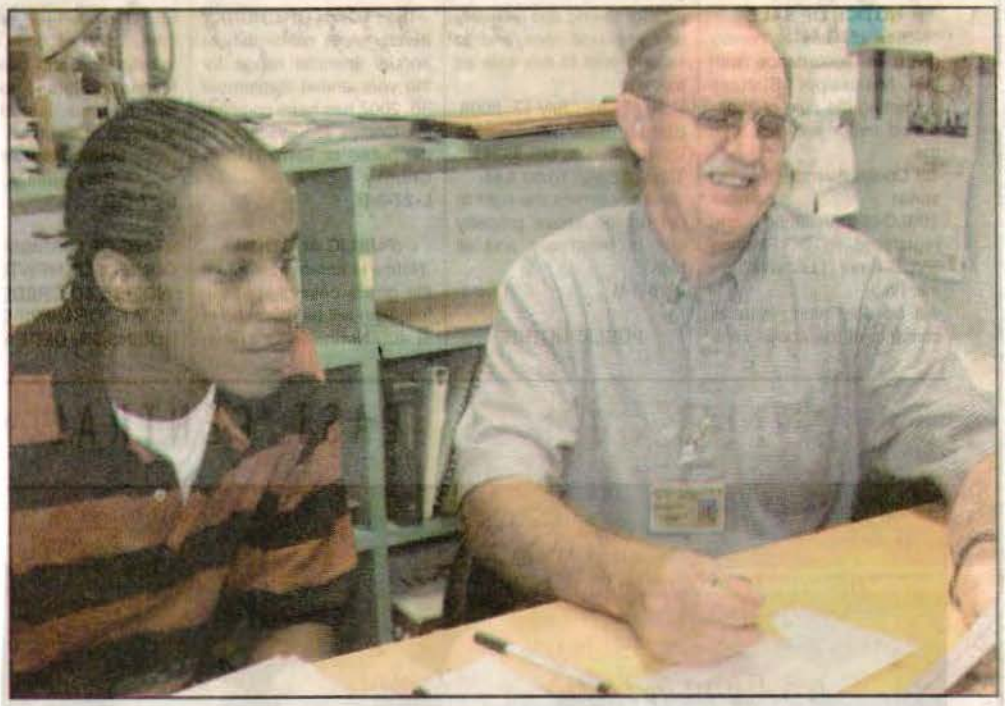
EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE



HOLMES ATTENDS ECCC ORIENTATION: Truamain Holmes (left), a 2008 graduate of Newton High School, was among area students who attended the May 30 Orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Helping him prepare his fall class schedule is ECCC science department chairman/instructor Joe Johnson. In addition to registering for fall classes, students can learn about the various opportunities available on the EC campus Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Saturday, June 7; Thursday, June 26; Wednesday, July 16; and Friday, August 15. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 21. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

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Organizations / Clubs

IN DECATUR

Centralettes chosen at East Central Community College

Members of the East Central Community College Centralettes, the danceline for the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band, were recently selected during tryouts held on the Decatur campus, announced Thomas W. Carson, director of bands. Those selected and their respective high schools include Tiffany Thomas and Alison Lower , both of Winston Academy; Lacey McMurray and Erica Dowell, both of Edinburg; Becky Culpepper and Brooke Culpepper, both of Scott Central; Candi Vance, Nicole Dunavant and Savanna Smith, all of Newton County; Denetra Dardin, Kimberly Blackwell, Lauren Luke and Anna Fulton, all of Nanih Waiya; Jessica Galloway, Krystle Wolverton, Lana Adkins and Anna Johnson, all of Union; Leigh Rentz and Amber Madison, both of Neshoba Central; Brooke Robinson of Quitman, Jacqlene Robinson of Noxapater; Bailey Brown of East Rankin Academy and Hannah Watkins of Sebastopol. Nicole Hillman serves as sponsor.

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Partners In Healthcare

Students enrolled in the first Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) class offered in Philadelphia by East Central Community College in Decatur are pictured with representatives from the College and the Neshoba County General Hospital/Nursing Home who recently formed a partnership to provide training for health-related courses. The six-week CNA class was held at the Neshoba Regional Healthcare Education and Training Center and concluded on July 13. Cost of instruction and materials for the non-credit course were provided by the ECCC Workforce Development Center. Seated from left are class members Vanessa Jones, Union; Pamela Boler, Philadelphia; Anita R. Hudson, Shuqalak; Mandy Thrash, Conehatta; Megan Adams, Louisville; Lana Brister and Linda Stevenson, both of Philadelphia; and Ashley Greenwood, Noxapater. Standing from left are Betsy Mann, ECCC dean of healthcare education; Annette Watkins, NCGH public relations; Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president; Wes Oswald, NCGH/Nursing Home interim CEO; students Bridget Boler, Lake; Chiquita Jordan, Noxapater; Lahoma Hawkins, Decatur; Helen Parker, Louisville; and Sharon Gibson, Choctaw; Roger Whitlock, dean of ECCC's Workforce Development Center; Roger Cole, Neshoba County Nursing Home administrator; Joe Barrett, ECCC workforce development coordinator; and CNA instructors Tosha Sanders and Dawn Gibbon. For more information on ECCC Healthcare Education, contact Betsy Mann, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 294. The email address is bmann@eccc.edu.

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PARTICIPATE IN ECCC POETRY COFFEEHOUSE: These students participated in the annual Poetry Coffeehouse hosted by Carol Shackelford's creative writing class at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (seated, from left) Angela Pires and Megan Gibson, both of Philadelphia; Patricia Vasquez of Lena, Amber Griffin of Carthage, Antwain Trotter of Meridian, Whitney Lott and Anthony Williams, both of Decatur; and instructor Carol Shackelford of Union; and (back row, from left) Sandra Whitman of Louisville, Cherith Wooten of Lake, Kristen May of Walnut Grove, Sermantha Clark of Forest, Tharin McNichols of Union, Chris Clark of Lena, Hannah McCloud of Chunky, Myrial Brown of Newton, Kass Sharp of Little Rock and Beth Aleander of Little Rock. Pires and Vasquez received awards in poetry and essays, respectively, from the Mississippi Community College Creative Writing Association.

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COLLEGIANS TO ROCK FAIR

The Collegians, East Central Community College's rock-n-roll band, will present their 25th annual Neshoba County Fair performance at 1 p.m. on July 28, at Founders' Square Pavilion. Also participating in the day's activities will be the ECCC Cheerleaders and the Centralettes, the danceline for the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band. The Collegians will also perform at 6:30 p.m. at the Grandstand prior to the Miss Neshoba County pageant. Collegian members and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) Connie Savell (percussion), Carthage; Lana Adkins (vocals), Union; Nathan Spears (vocals), Neshoba Central; Kyle Barrett (bass), Ryan Monk (drums), Drew Gillis (trumpet) and Drew Harrison (vocals), all of Newton County; Jordan Taylor (vocals), Central Academy in Macon; Kelly Kight (vocals), Nanih Waiya; and Carmen Ezell (vocals), Newton County; and (back row, from left) Aaron Mann (keyboard), Carthage; Dustin Gibbs (technician), Lake; Leslie Nash (tenor sax), Union; Brent Cumberland (alto sax) and Graylon Foster (trumpet), both of Philadelphia; Casey Stokes (guitar), Neshoba Central; Anthony Williams (technician), Newton County; Josh Talbert (technician), a home-school student from Newton; Andy Ladd (technician), Philadelphia; and Clay Winstead (technician), Neshoba Central. Not pictured is Whitney Lott (technician) of Newton County and director Thomas W. Carson, who also plays guitar.

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EC orientation sessions continue through Aug.

Ethan Dollar (right), a 2008 graduate of Union High School, was among area students who have attended a summer Orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Helping him prepare his fall class schedule is ECCC mathematics instructor Haywood Reeves. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Wednesday, July 16 and Friday, August 15.

East Central Community College will hold another of its annual summer orientation sessions on Wednesday, July 16 for freshmen and transfer students planning to attend fall classes.

Joe Killens, Vice President for Student Services, said, "Students can arrive any time between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. to register. The process will begin in the Eddie M. Smith Student Union Grill on the west side of campus.

"Depending on the crowd, we anticipate the process lasting a couple of hours. After completing registration, students will be ready to start classes in the fall."

"We will have a lab set up the day of orientation so that students may complete the orientation process that day."

Killens added, "Schedules may be changed at a later date once the required scores are on file. For students who have not taken the ACT, the College administers the test several times throughout the summer."

Contact academic counselor Michael Alexander at 601-635-2111, ext. 231, for ACT information.

Students are also reminded that in order to receive MTAG (Mississippi Tuition Assistance Grant) they must have taken the National ACT.

To complete registration, students need to have the following information on file in the Office of Admissions, Records and Research: (1) a completed application for admission; (2) an ACT score (for academic/technical students only; does not apply to career students); (3) official high school transcript; and (4) college transcript if a transfer student.

During orientation, students receive their approved class schedules for the fall semester, reserve or check the status of their dormitory rooms, and have photographs made for identification cards. The only fee associated with orientation is a $5

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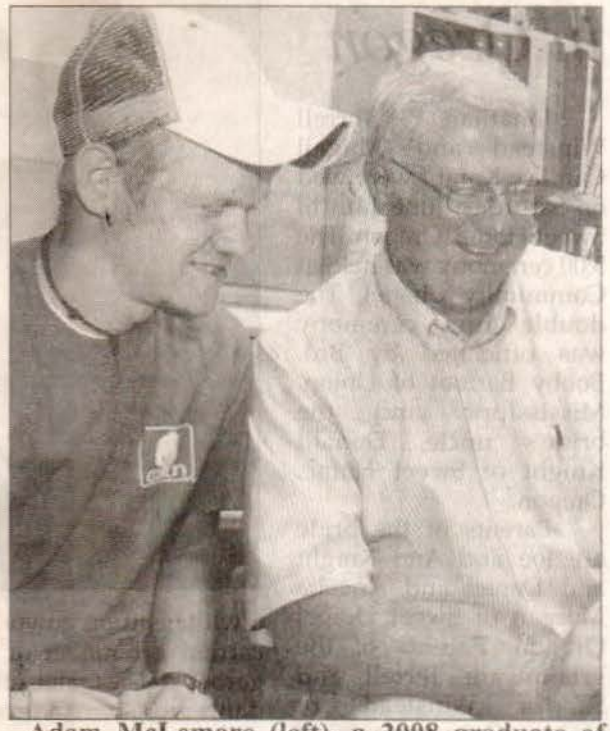
charge to purchase a parking decal. A tag number is required to purchase the decal.

The College's final orientation session will be held Friday, August 15.



Adam McLemore (left), a 2008 graduate of Sebastopol High School, gets help preparing for his fall class schedule from EC machine shop technology instructor Danny Gressett. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 21. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu. (EC Photos)

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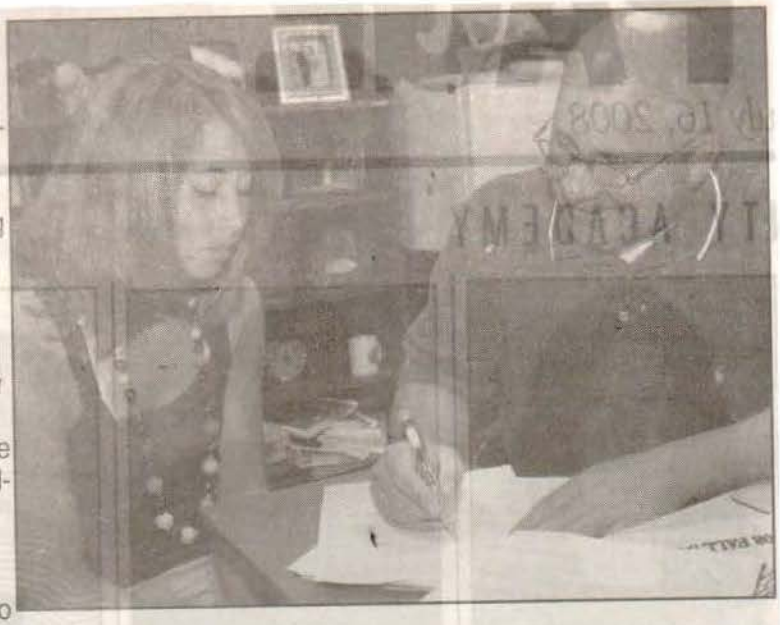

GIBBS ATTENDS ECCC ORIENTATION: Elise Gibbs (right), a 2008 graduate of Newton County High School, was among area students who attended the May 30 Orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Helping her prepare her fall class schedule is ECCC oral communication instructor Kevin Ryals. In addition to registering for fall classes, students can learn about the various opportunities available on the EC campus. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Saturday, June 7; Thursday, June 26; Wednesday, July 16; and Friday, August 15. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 21. For information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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RECEIVES LUCILLE WOOD SCHOLARSHIP: East Central Community College sophomore Megan Munn (left) of Decatur is the recipient of the 2008 Lucille Wood Scholarship. The recipient is pictured with ECCC academic counselor Lanette Hanna, following the award presentation, which was made during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

ECCC cheerleaders selected

East Central Community College recently announced members of the 2008-2009 football and basketball cheerleading squad. They were selected during tryouts held on the Decatur campus.

Those chosen and their respective high schools include Dakota Anthony of Neshoba Central, Anna Munn, Kacy Covert, Erin Huffman and Matt Naylor, all of West Lauderdale; Abby McMillan, Anna Williams and Daniel Steverson, all of Newton County Academy; Emily Thrash of Sebastopol, Kayla Adcock of Winston Academy, Juley Taylor of East Rankin Academy, Adrienne McDill, Jonathan Federick and Austin Crouther (mascot), all of Newton County; Will Emmons of Lake and Kolby Sisson of Noxapater.

Huellen Watson serves as sponsor.

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ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVES VOWELL SCHOLARSHIP

Meaghan Mayes (left), a 2008 graduate of Sebastopol High School, is the recipient of the Lavern and Elizabeth Vowell Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 1993 by the couples children. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC academic counselor Lanette Hanna. The award was presented during the Colleges annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVES MANUFACTURERS' SCHOLARSHIP

Jaqueline Ward (left), a 2008 graduate of Sebastopol High School, is the recipient of a Mississippi Automotive Manufacturers Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured with the recipient is ECCC recruiter/Tech Prep Career Center director Ramonica Evans. The award was presented during the Colleges annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVES LATHEM SCHOLARSHIP

Lindsey Stuart (center), a 2008 graduate of Sebastopol High School, is the recipient of the Andrew Wilson Lathem Scholarship to attend East Central Community College in Decatur. The scholarship was established in 2008 by the family of Mr. Lathem, a 1940 graduate of East Central Junior College. Representing the donors are family members Linda Corley (left) and Gloria Boozer. The award was presented during the Colleges annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVES HOLLINGSWORTH SCHOLARSHIP

Will Emmons (center), a 2008 graduate of Lake High School, is the recipient of the Albert and Fannie Mae Hollingsworth Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured with the recipient is Fannie Mae Hollingsworth (right) and her daughter, Patricia Lowe (left). The award was presented during the Colleges annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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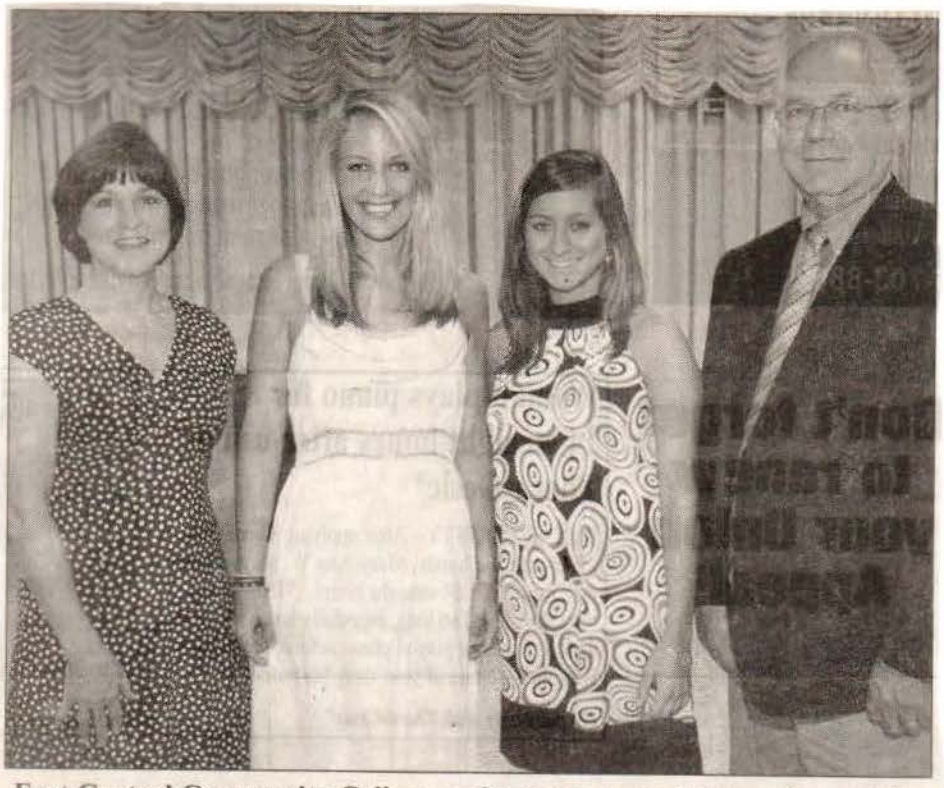

East Central Community College sophomores Anna Johnson (second from left) of Union and Callie Cumberland (third from left) of Decatur are this year's recipients of the La-Z-Boy South Scholarships at East Central Community College in Decatur. Representing La-Z-Boy are Tom Keith (right) and Julie Rowzee (left).

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RECEIVES WARD SCHOLARSHIP: Jason Hancock (center), a 2008 graduate of Newton County High School, is the recipient of the Charles E. Ward Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College. The scholarship was established in 2003 by Mr. Ward's widow, Gail Ward (left), and their three sons, Roger, Mike and David Ward. Representing the donors are Charles' sisters, Gloria Joiner (left) and Nancy Quinn. The award was presented during the College's annual AT&T Scholarship Appreciation Luncheon held Thursday, June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

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ECCC PHOTO

ATTENDS ORIENTATION

Jeremy Laird (right), a 2008 graduate of Morton High School, was among area students who attended the May 30 Orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Helping him prepare his fall class schedule is ECCC science instructor Curt Skipper. In addition to registering for fall classes, students can learn about the various opportunities available on the EC campus. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Wednesday, July 16; and Friday, August 15. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 21. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

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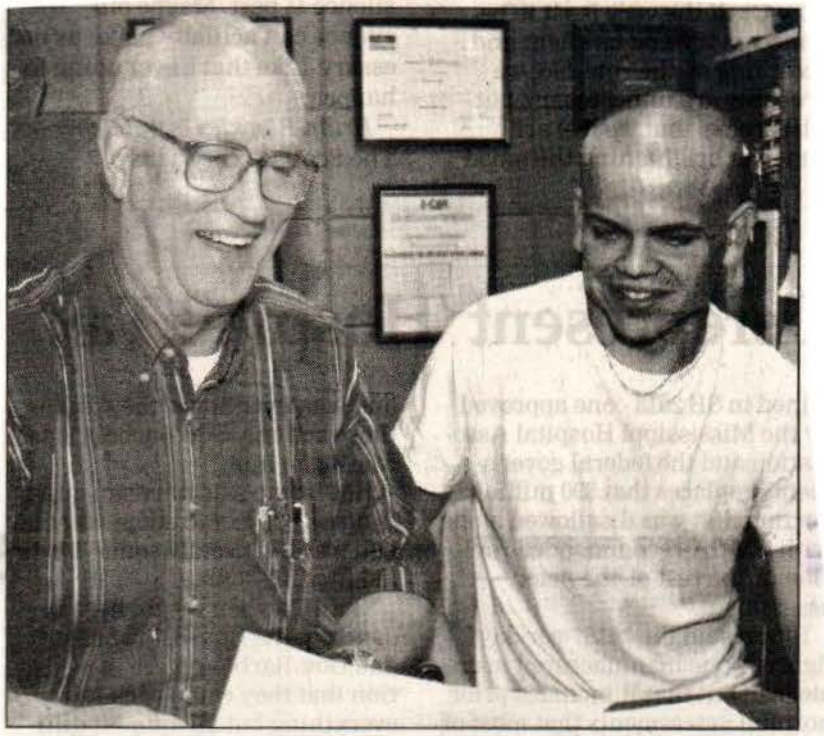

ECCC PHOTO

HARRISON ATTENDS ECCC ORIENTATION

Douglas Harrison (right), a 2008 graduate of Morton High School, was among area students who attended the May 30 Orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Helping him prepare his fall class schedule is ECCC collision repair technology instructor Conrad Germany. In addition to registering for fall classes, students can learn about the various opportunities available on the EC campus. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Wednesday, July 16; and Friday, August 15. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 21. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

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WEEK OF July 31, 2008

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

GED graduation scheduled July 24

Forty-two students will walk across the Huff Auditorium stage at East Central Community College in Decatur to receive diplomas during the annual GED Commencement at 7 p.m. Thursday, July 24.

For many of the graduates, receiving a high school equivalency diploma "is a dream come true," according to Gene Davis, dean of adult and continuing education, whose office is responsible for providing adult basic education and GED classes in the College's five-county district.

"It's really heart-warming to watch these students receive their GED diplomas," Davis said. "They have worked very hard and some have overcome personal struggles to reach such an important milestone in their lives. We look forward to recognizing the graduates on their accomplishment."

Megan Sherelle Parker of Lawrence, Ashley Crapps of Philadelphia and Russell Martin of Harperville will share feelings on earning their GED diplomas. All three plan to attend ECCC in the fall.

State Senator Giles Ward of Louisville, who represents Leake, Neshoba and Winston counties, will serve as guest speaker.

ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin will award diplomas.

Also participating in the program are Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, vice president for instruction; ABE/GED instructors Ed McGowan of Lawrence and Bryan Burt of Newton; Len Bobo, ECCC music instructor; and vocalist Dinah Lachney of Decatur.

Davis said other members of the Class of 2008 are expected to enroll in fall classes at ECCC and some will qualify to receive their first course at no charge.

"We continue to offer the first course free to anyone over 21 years of age who has not previously attended college and who meets the other entrance requirements," Davis said. "Many of our GED graduates have taken advantage of the first-course free program and completed their college degrees."

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East Central CC tells homecoming honorees

Decatur residents Marijo James Denson and Richard E. Mayo, A.J. Kilpatrick of Grenada and the late Jamie Clark will receive special recognition during homecoming activities scheduled Saturday, September 27, 2008, at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Denson is this year's Alumna of the Year and Mayo was selected Alumnus of the Year. Kilpatrick and Clark are the newest additions to the College's Athletic Hall of Fame. Honorees are chosen by the College's Alumni Association.

Denson, a 1947 ECCC graduate, is being honored for her numerous civic and community activities and her successful career with the Motion Picture Theatre Company. She is also a longtime supporter of the College. She served as ECCC's May Queen her sophomore year.

Mayo (Class of 1955) is being honored for his 30-plus years of service with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The chemical engineer received NASA's Exceptional Service Medal in 1988 for his contributions and achievements in the various space programs. He held several administrative positions with the organization until his retirement in 1990.

Kilpatrick, a Philadelphia native, is a 1952 graduate of ECCC, where he was a two-year letterman in football and basketball. He served as East Central's athletic coordinator and head football coach from 1982-1991 and led the Warriors to the state playoffs in 1987. His overall record during his 36-year career as head football coach on the high school and community/junior level is 238-138-12, and includes several conference and division titles and a state championship. He also had success as a high school basketball coach. Kilpatrick received numerous honors throughout his career, including his induction into the Mississippi Association of Coaches Hall of Fame in 1986.

Clark, who lost his brief battle with brain cancer in 2001, served as ECCC's head baseball coach from 1988 to 2001. The West Point native led the 1998 Diamond Warriors to the College's first state baseball title and a 32-22 record. He received MACJC Coach of the Year honors following the championship season. The 1998 squad is among special groups being honored during the 2008 homecoming celebration. Clark's overall record at ECCC is 365-302-1. The 1997 squad set a record for most season victories with 40 and finished state runners-up. The College's baseball stadium is named in Clark's honor.

Also being honored this year are former tennis players and members of all classes ending in "8." Special recognition is scheduled for members of the 1958 class in recognition of their Golden Anniversary. Members of the 1957, 1958 and 1959 classes will also hold their annual reunion.

For more information contact Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for foundation and alumni relations, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 327. The email address is sholling@eccc.edu.

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT
NEWTON RECORD
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Clark, Kilpatrick tabbed for ECCC Hall of Fame

A.J. Kilpatrick of Grenada and the late Jamie Clark are the newest additions to East Central Community College's Athletic Hall of Fame.

The duo, along with Alumna of the Year Marijo James Denson and Alumnus of the Year Richard E. Mayo, will receive special recognition during homecoming activities scheduled Saturday, September 27, 2008, at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin.

Kilpatrick, a Philadelphia native, is a 1952 graduate of ECCC, where he was a two-year letterman in football and basketball. He served as East Central's athletic coordinator and head football coach from 1982-1991 and led the Warriors to the state playoffs in 1987.

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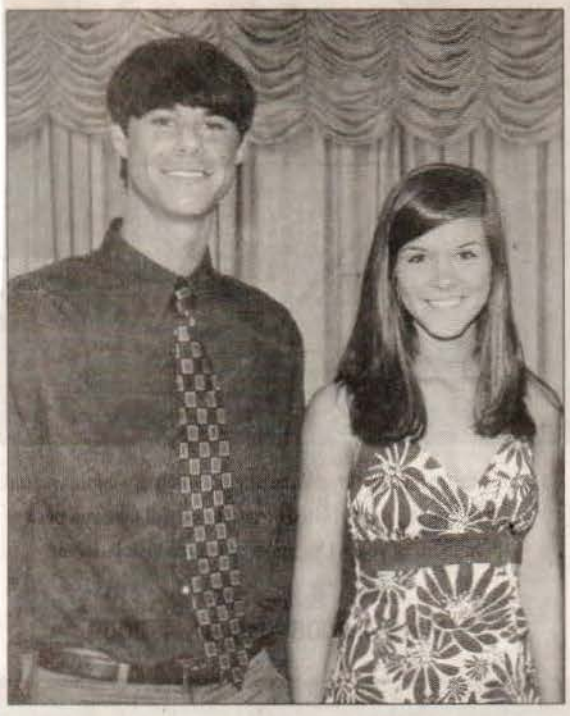

Daniel Cheatham (left), a 2008 graduate of Neshoba Central High School, and Brandi Covington (center), a 2008 graduate of Union High School, are the recipients of the Merchants and Farmers Bank Scholarships. These scholarships were established in 1998 and are awarded to two Neshoba County seniors.

Sarah Eakes (center) of Little Rock is the recipient of the Class of 1964 Scholarship. The scholarship was established by the Class of 1964 during their 40-year class reunion in 2004.

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Receives Thrash Memorial Scholarship.... East Central Community College sophomore Sidney Gutierrez (left) of Chunky is the recipient of the Thomas W. Thrash Memorial Scholarship, endowed in 2002 by the family and friends of the longtime ECCC instructor. Pictured with the recipient is Mr. Thrash's widow, Jeanette Thrash.

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WEEK OF July 21, 2008

ECCC PHOTO

PREPARING FOR ECCC

Kayla Boykin (left), a 2008 graduate of Sebastopol High School, was among area students who attended orientation activities held June 26 at East Central Community College in Decatur. She is shown with Joe Killens, vice president for student services, who provided assistance to the incoming freshman in preparing her fall semester class schedule. An additional orientation session is scheduled Friday, August 15. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 21. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, 601-635-2111.

EC Warrior Club banquet set for August 14

DECATUR—Supporters of athletics at East Central Community College are invited to attend the first Warrior Club fall banquet on August 14.

Activities start at 6 p.m. followed by dinner at 7 p.m. in the Gold Room of Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

Tickets to the casual event are $20 per person. To request tickets or for more information, call 1-877-462-3222, ext. 327.

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ECCC PHOTO

BANKSTON REGISTERS FOR ECCC CLASSES

Daniel Bankston (left) of Sebastopol was among area students who attended the June 7 orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Bankston is shown with computer science instructor Deborah Hammons who provided assistance to the incoming freshman in planning his fall semester class schedule. An additional orientation session is scheduled Friday, August 15. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 21. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

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ECCC PHOTO

PARTNERS IN HEALTHCARE

Students enrolled in the first Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) class offered in Philadelphia by East Central Community College in Decatur are pictured with representatives from the College and the Neshoba County General Hospital/Nursing Home who recently formed a partnership to provide training for health-related courses. The six-week CNA class was held at the Neshoba Regional Healthcare Education and Training Center and concluded on July 13. Cost of instruction and materials for the non-credit course were provided by the ECCC Workforce Development Center. Seated from left are class members Vanessa Jones, Union; Pamela Boler, Philadelphia; Anita R. Hudson, Shuqalak; Mandy Thrash, Conehatta; Megan Adams, Louisville; Lana Brister and Linda Stevenson, both of Philadelphia; and Ashley Greenwood, Noxapater. Standing from left are Betsy Mann, ECCC dean of healthcare education; Annette Watkins, NCGH public relations; Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president; Wes Oswald, NCGH/Nursing Home interim CEO; students Bridget Boler, Lake; Chiquita Jordan, Noxapater; Lahoma Hawkins, Decatur; Helen Parker, Louisville; and Sharon Gibson, Choctaw; Roger Whitlock, dean of ECCC's Workforce Development Center; Roger Cole, Neshoba County Nursing Home administrator; Joe Barrett, ECCC workforce development coordinator; and CNA instructors Tosha Sanders and Dawn Gibbon. For more information on ECCC Healthcare Education, contact Betsy Mann, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 294. The email address is bmann@eccc.edu.

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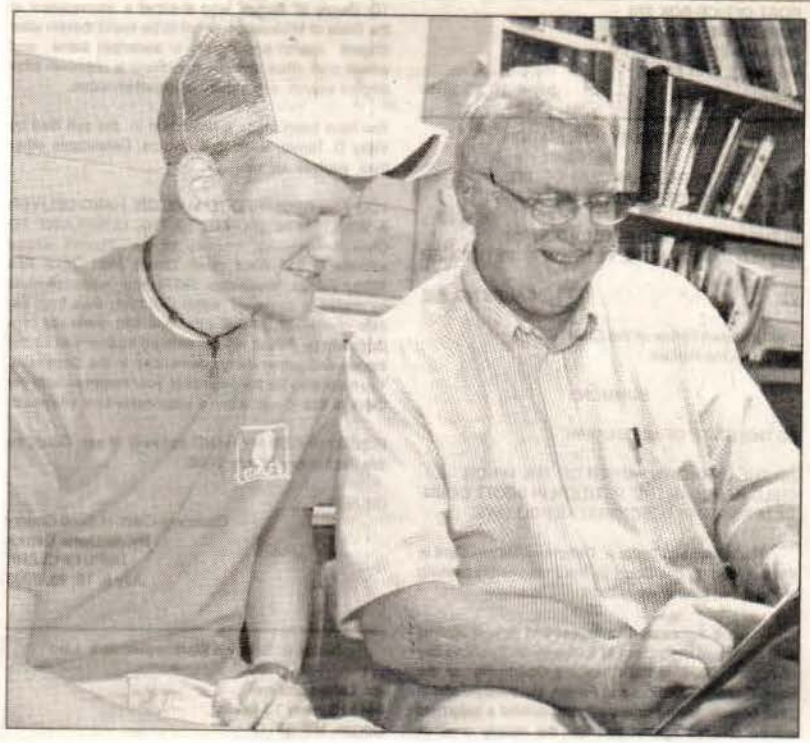

ECCC PHOTO

MCLEMORE ATTENDS ORIENTATION

Adam McLemore (left), a 2008 graduate of Sebastopol High School, was among area students who attended the May 30 Orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Helping him prepare his fall class schedule is ECCC machine shop technology instructor Danny Gressett. In addition to registering for fall classes, students can learn about the various opportunities available on the EC campus. An additional orientation session is scheduled Friday, August 15. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 21. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, 601-635-2111.

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WEEK OF July 21, 2008

Signs up for ECCC classes

Anna Powell, right, of Philadelphia was among area students who attended a recent orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Powell is shown with English instructor Lynne Smith who provided assistance to the incoming freshman in planning her fall semester class schedule. Additional orientation sessions are scheduled Friday, Aug. 15. Fall classes begin Thursday, Aug. 21. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

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Deasons earn college degrees

Husband and wife Tommy and Geraldine Deason graduated from East Central Community College in May. The Carthage couple received numerous honors while at ECCC. Mrs. Deason made the Dean's List twice and was a two-time Honorable Mention Scholar, while graduating with a grade point average above 3.0. Mr. Deason was named to the Dean's List once, the President's List once and was twice named a Honorable Mention Scholar. Both received the Recognition Scholarship, which will assist them as they continue their educations at Mississippi State University this fall.

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Receives Harrison Memorial Scholarship... East Central Community College sophomore Robin Willis (second from left) of Decatur and 2008 East Rankin Academy graduate Crystal Massey (third from left) of Forest are the recipients of the Harrison Memorial Scholarship at East Central Community College in Decatur. This scholarship was established by friends of Ricky and Janean Harrison of Little Rock to honor the memory of their children, Crystal and C.J., who were killed in an automobile accident in 1993. Representing the donors are Ricky Harrison (left) and Rev. Keith Rammage (right) of Beulah Baptist Church. Not pictured, but also receiving Harrison Memorial Scholarships, are Naomi Massey of Sebastopol High School and Caleb Alexander of Newton County High School. The awards were presented June 12, in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. (EC Photo)

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ECCC PHOTO

GRAY PARTICIPATES IN ECCC ORIENTATION

Nicole Gray (right) of Forest was among area students who attended the June 7 orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Gray is shown with chemistry instructor Peggy Clayton who provided assistance to the incoming freshman in planning her fall semester class schedule. One additional orientation session is scheduled Friday, August 15. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 21. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The email address is jkillens@eccc.edu.

EC Warrior Club banquet set for August 14

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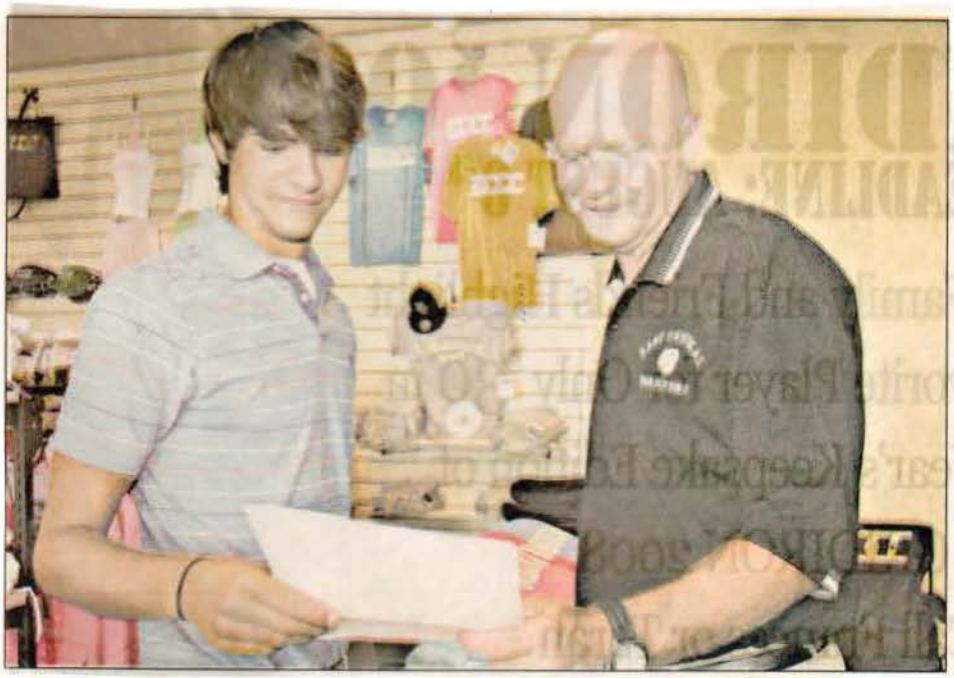

ECCC PHOTOS

ECCC BOUND

At left, Matthew Sanders (left) of Forest was among area students who attended orientation activities held June 26 at East Central Community College in Decatur. Sanders is shown with Joe Killens, vice president for student services, who provided assistance to the incoming freshman in preparing his fall semester class schedule.

At right, Ardrena Pinkston (left) of Forest was among area students who attended the July 16 Orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Helping her prepare her fall class schedule is ECCC nursing instructor Tosha Sanders.

The College's final orientation session is scheduled Friday, August 15. Fall classes begin Thursday, August 21. For more information contact ECCC Student Services, Phone 601-635-2111 or 1-877-462-3222, 205.

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WEEK OF August 4, 2008

Complete AutoCAD Class at ECCC

These participants recently completed a Basic AutoCAD class offered by East Central Community College's Workforce Development Center in Decatur. These graduates now have an understanding of Computer Aided Design software applications for two and three dimensional design and drafting. Those receiving certificates of completion are (seated from left) Sheila Hedrick with Shelley Electric, and Renee Crawford with Pearl River Resort; and (standing from left) Glen Harrison, Instructor, Joe Arevalo with Pearl River Resort, Chris Stroud with Raytheon, Ernie Ezell and Perry McDill, both with Shelley Electric. Also completing the program but not pictured is Theron Dixon and Paul Frazer with Pearl River Resort, Mignon Shelley and James Shelley with Shelly Electric, and Nathan Ellis with Raytheon. (EC Photo)

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

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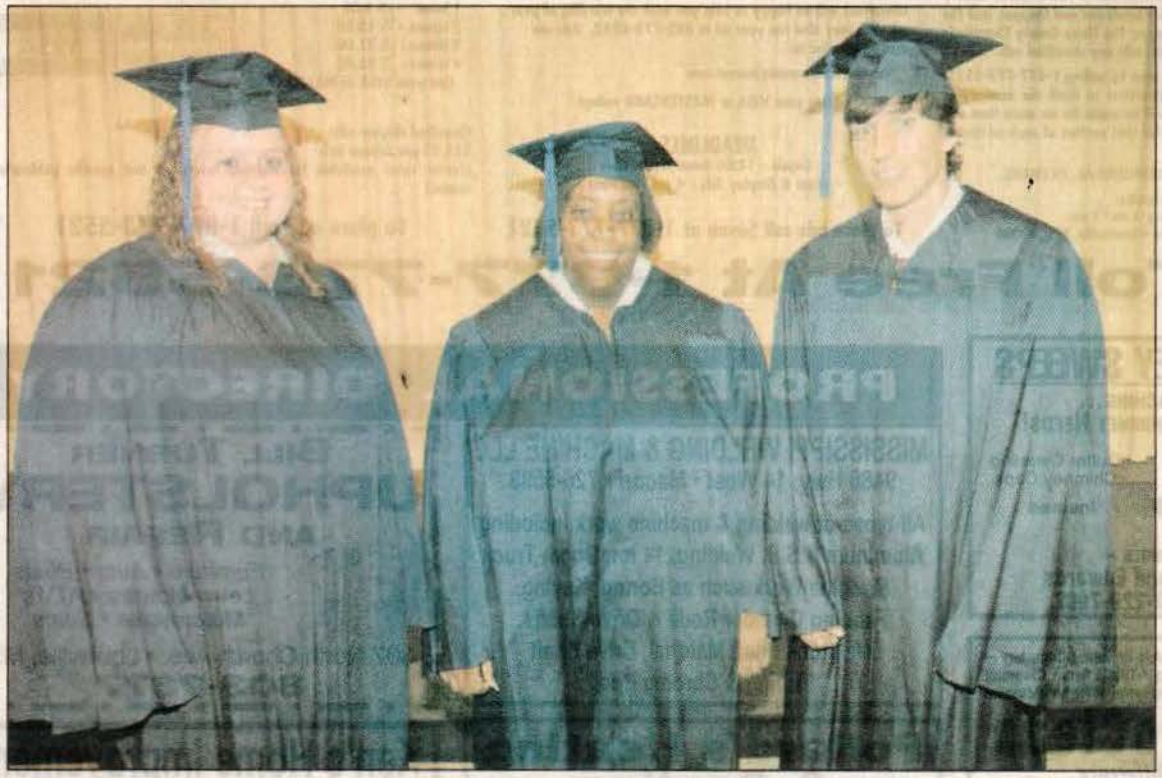
THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF August 11, 2008

Winston County Diplomas



These Winston County residents are beginning a new chapter in their lives after receiving high school equivalency diplomas at the annual GED (General Educational Development) Graduation ceremony held July 24, 2008, at East Central Community College in Decatur. Standing from left are Karla Fisher and LaToya Sowe, both of Noxapater; and Steven Copeland, Preston. Forty-five students walked across the Huff Auditorium stage to receive diplomas from ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. State Senator Giles Ward of Louisville was guest speaker. ECCC offers free Adult Basic Education and GED classes at various locations throughout the College's five-county district. For more information contact the ECCC Office of Adult and Continuing Education, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 278 or 279. The email address is gdavis@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF August 11, 2008

1st Warrior Club Fall Banquet Set Thursday

All ECCC Alumni and Friends Are Invited

FROM STAFF REPORTS

DECATUR—Supporters of athletics at East Central Community College are invited to attend the first annual Warrior Club Fall Banquet scheduled Thursday, August 14 on the Decatur campus.

Activities begin with a social hour at 6 p.m. followed by a catfish and shrimp dinner at 7 p.m. in the Gold Room of Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

"The banquet is open to all alumni and friends of the College who have supported East Central athletics in the past or have pledged their support for the future," said Chris Harris, who began his new duties as athletic director on July 1.

Harris said members of the ECCC coaching staff will serve as guest speakers and will provide outlooks on their respective upcoming seasons. Information will also be presented regarding the College's athletic facilities. In addition, Warrior Club officers for 2008-09 will be chosen.

Tickets to the casual event are $20 per person. All proceeds will benefit the Warrior Club, which provides financial assistance for all ECCC sports.

To request tickets or for more information contact Stacey Hollingsworth, executive director for Foundation and Alumni Relations, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 327. The email address is sholling@eccc.edu.

The Warrior football season is scheduled to kick off on the road at Coahoma Community College on August 28.

More information about the Warriors football season is planned for August 27.

The Warrior soccer season is scheduled to kick off August 22 with a road trip to East Mississippi Community College.

ECCC PHOTO

RECEIVE NATIONAL SKILLSUSA HONORS

East Central Community College students Crystal McGee (left) of Philadelphia and Brandi Carter of Louisville won second-place honors in the Occupational Health and Safety competition at the National Leadership and Skills Conference held earlier this summer in Kansas City, Missouri. Both are students of cosmetology instructor Wanda Brackeen. Also placing at the national SkillsUSA competition were Travis Jordan of Pelahatchie, who finished 12th in collision repair, and James Johnson of Madden, who placed 13th in residential wiring. Instructors are Conrad Germany and John Everett, respectively.

THE PHILADELPHIAN

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WEEK OF August 11, 2008

Graduation

East Central CC pins new practical nursing graduates

Twenty-three practical nursing students completed requirements for graduation and received special recognition during the annual pinning ceremony held July 22 at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Niecy Barham of Philadelphia was selected Practical Nursing Student of the Year and provided remarks.

Other graduates of the 12-month program include Lakaisha Coleman, Preston; Rebecca Coonce, Jennifer Hollingsworth and Heather Warren, all of Forest; Whitney Crawford and Kristi Hardin, both of Philadelphia; Monica Drummond, Nahamani Henderson, Tawana McDaniel and Myranda McDonald, all of Newton; Tyeshai Ealy, Lena; Margo Everett, Lake; Anna Hughes and Autumn Westbrook, both of Pulaski; Loraine Johnson, Conehatta; Austin Lloyd, Morton; Dana Maxwell, Chunky; Jan McNeill, Decatur; Meai Strickland, Quitman; and Tegan Ward, Little Rock.

Instructors Kelly Miller and Tosha Sanders conducted the pinning ceremony. Also participating in the program were Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president; Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, vice president for instruction; and students Nahamani Henderson and Myranda McDonald.

Graduates can begin their new careers after passing the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN).

For more information on ECCC healthcare programs contact Betsy Mann, dean of Healthcare Education, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 294.

APPEARED IN:

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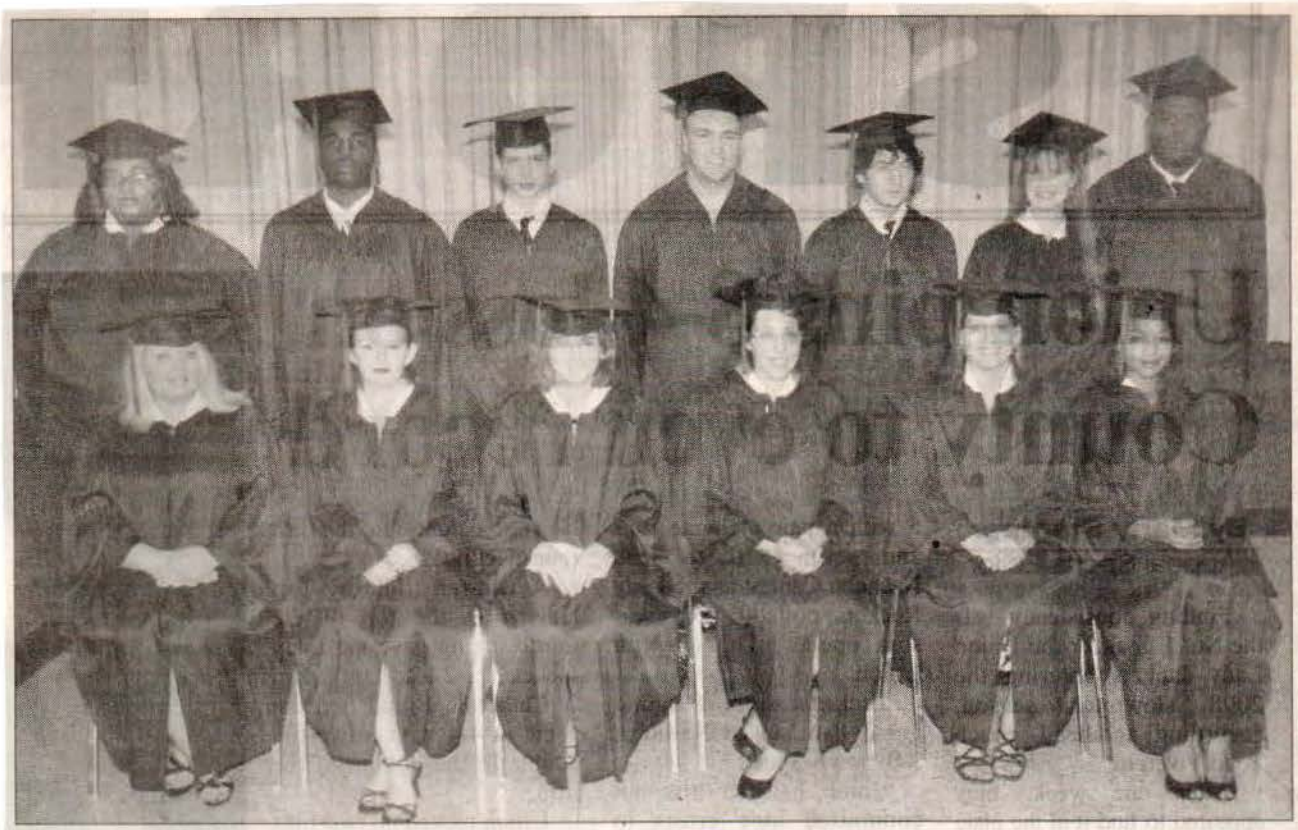
THE PHILADELPHIAN

WEEK OF August 11, 2008



Newton Countians Receiving GED Diplomas...These Newton County residents are beginning a new chapter in their lives after receiving high school equivalency diplomas at the annual GED (General Educational Development) Graduation ceremony held July 24, 2008, at East Central Community College in Decatur. Seated from left Amanda Ward, Newton; Regina Schmid, Union; Christina Williams, Little Rock; Clara Snyder, Lawrence; Christina Posey, Newton; and Kristen Smith, Decatur. Standing from left are Bernice Fielder, Newton; Fernandez Boose, Hickory; Joseph Edwards, Newton; Jackie Tew, Union; Fraun McCarthy, Union; Sherelle Parker, Newton; and Catrell Buckley, Newton. Parker also provided a testimonial. Forty-five students walked across the Huff Auditorium stage to receive diplomas from ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. State Senator Giles Ward of Louisville was guest speaker. ECCC offers free Adult Basic Education and GED classes at various locations in the College's five-county district. For more information contact the ECCC Office of Adult and Continuing Education, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 278 or 279. The email address is gdavis@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF August 11, 2008

Scott Countians Receiving GED Diplomas

These Scott County area residents are beginning a new chapter in their lives after receiving high school equivalency diplomas at the annual GED (General Educational Development) Graduation ceremony held July 24, 2008, at East Central Community College in Decatur. Seated from left are Brandy Hall and Wendy Grantham, both of Morton; Melissa Bunch, Raleigh; Candice White, Morton; Horatia Ferrill, Forest; Kayla Boykin, Union; and Kristi Hunter and James Kempson, both of Morton. Standing from left are Russell Martin, Harperville; Bobby Harrell, Morton; Shawn Dobbs, Conehatta; Justin Westberry, Matthew King Mark Allen and Chris Tatum, all of Morton; Bradley Ward, Conehatta; and James Roberts, Morton. Martin also provided a testimonial. Forty-five students walked across the Huff Auditorium stage to receive diplomas from ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. State Senator Giles Ward of Louisville served as guest speaker. ECCC offers free Adult Basic Education and GED classes at various locations throughout the College's five-county district. For more information contact the ECCC Office of Adult and Continuing Education, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 278 or 279. The email address is gdavis@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF August 11, 2008

Lena student earns LPN degree at EC

Tyeshai Ealy, Lena, was among 23 practical nursing students graduating and receiving special recognition during pinning ceremonies at East Central Community College in Decatur recently.

She can begin a new career after passing the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses.

For more information on ECCC healthcare programs telephone Betsy Mann, Dean of Healthcare Education, at 601-635-2111 or, toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 294.

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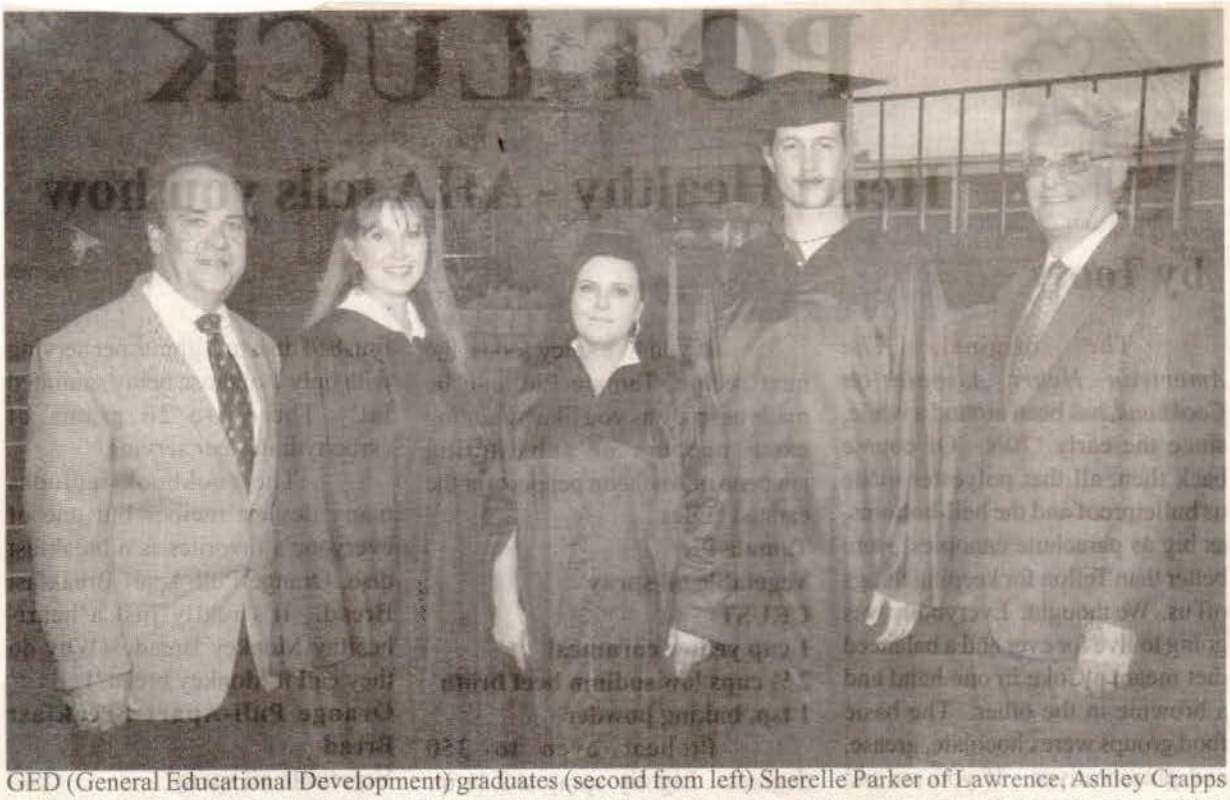

GED (General Educational Development) graduates (second from left) Sherelle Parker of Lawrence, Ashley Crapps of Philadelphia and Russell Martin of Harperville provided testimonials during commencement activities held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured with the graduates are State Senator Giles Ward (left) of Louisville, guest speaker; and ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin who presented diplomas to the 45 students participating in the annual ceremony. (EC Photo)

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'Follow Your Dreams,'
GED Graduate Tells Audience

Ashley Crapps of Philadelphia dropped out of high school because she thought she "knew everything" and school "was not important."

Sherelle Parker of Lawrence, also a high school dropout, thought an education "was not necessary" until she was unable to help her stepson with his homework.

Russell Martin of Harperville left school in hopes of working fulltime with his father while also being a home school student. "I spent more time working and less time studying," said the 18-year-old Martin.

What these three had in common was that all came to the same conclusion: to succeed in life they needed to return to school and get their high school diplomas.

All three accomplished their goal and were among the 45 GED (General Educational Development) graduates who received diplomas during the annual ceremony held July 24, 2008, at East Central Community College in Decatur.

But not only did they walk across the Huff Auditorium stage with fellow graduates, they all shared their personal stories through testimonials.

In Ashley's case, she quit school at age 17 prior to her senior year in 2003-04 at Neshoba Central. She moved to Houma, La., with her boyfriend but soon realized she had made a mistake and wanted to return to school. But since she had missed several weeks of classes, she would have to wait until the following year to begin her senior year.

So she remained in Houma for about two years, working at various jobs. During this time she had a son. She and her boyfriend also parted ways. She returned to Philadelphia in 2006 and found employment at minimum wage jobs.

Crapps said she began taking GED classes in March 2007 at the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Vocational-Technical Center. She said she passed the exam following "a lot of prayer and studying" in October 2007.

The 22-year-old plans to enroll in EC this fall. Her career goal is to become a medical lab technician.

"It's never too late for change....never too late to get an education," Crapps stated.

Parker, 24, is married and has two stepsons and a daughter. She said receiving an education has been a lifelong challenge.

"When I was in the first grade, I was diagnosed with dyslexia. "The disorder made learning for me a little different, to say the least."

Parker remained in school until the end of the 10th grade. She took the GED test several times but was not successful. She got a job in retail and received a promotion about the same time she married Keith Parker who had two sons. A year later she and Keith had a girl, Chyann, who is now three years old.

Parker recalled her life "was fine" until one night she was unable to help her younger stepson, Kelly, who was 15 years old at the time, with his homework.

"It was very hard to fit any time in for classes and studying since I was a full-time manager, a full-time mamma to a two-year-old, a step-mom to two teenage boys that always seemed hungry and a wife to my husband that depended on me for supper," she stated.

But three months later, she passed the GED and all her efforts proved worthwhile. She expressed appreciation to her instructors, Bryan and Mary Burt, and Ed McGowan "for all the encouragement they gave me." She also thanked "God, my family and friends" for support and faith.

"The most important thing I learned about getting my GED is that the Lord never closes one door without opening another," she said. "I encourage everyone tonight to open whatever doors to success you desire. Go to college, join the military or go for that job you always wanted."

Parker, whose plans include attending East Central in the near future, concluded her remarks by urging those in attendance "to follow your dreams and never give up."

During his junior year at Scott Central High School, Martin said "things got tough," so he and his family decided it was best for him to become a home- school student.

"I could get some schooling in and help my dad (Steve Martin) with his business (One-Stop Construction)," the younger Martin said. "Things went as planned for about a month."

But then everything "started going downhill," Russell stated. "My dad needed more help and I was doing less school work. It got to where I had a full-time job with my dad and my pencil wasn't getting moved around as much."

So Russell, with encouragement from his family, decided in January 2008 it was time to enroll in GED courses offered in Forest.

"And thanks to my instructors – Mrs. (Carol) Greer, Mrs. (Teresa) Lovett and Mrs. (Elizabeth) Nutt, I was able to pass the GED exam," Russell stated. "I could not have done it without their help!"

Russell also plans to enroll in fall classes at ECCC. His career goal is to work with the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks.

State Senator Giles Ward of Louisville, who served as guest speaker, praised the graduates for their accomplishment. "The GED you have earned - notice I said earned – is a great positive step in finding a job or changing to a new job or taking on new responsibilities at College's ABE/GED program.

"My wife, Kay, is a GED instructor in Louisville. I know first-hand how exciting it is to find out that a student has passed one or more parts of the equivalency exam - and I've witnessed how your instructors actually shed tears when they learn you've accomplished the important goal of earning your GED.

"When you receive your diploma tonight," he continued, "you're going to have new doors opening in front of you. And all that will happen because you had the courage to simply do it....You're leaving here with a ticket to a better life- and I want to be the first to congratulate you."

ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin presented diplomas to the 45 graduates. Also participating in the program were Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, vice president for instruction; Gene Davis, dean of Adult and Continuing Education; ABE/GED instructors Ed McGowan and Bryan Burt; ECCC music instructor Len Bobo; and vocalist Dinah Lachney.

ECCC offers free ABE/GED classes in various locations throughout the College's five-county district.

For more information contact the Office of Adult and Continuing Education, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 278 or 279. The e-mail address is gdavis@eccc.edu.

"It was at that moment when I realized I did not want to be an hourly retail employee my whole life," she stated. Parker said she also realized if something happened to her current job "it would be very difficult to find employment without starting at rock bottom again since I did not have an education."

In August 2007, she resumed taking GED classes offered during evening hours on the ECCC campus. She admitted it was not an easy time for her and her family.

WEEK OF August 18, 2008

EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

WALLEY RECEIVES GED DIPLOMA: Laura Walley (left) of Newton is beginning a new chapter in her life after receiving a high school equivalency diploma at the annual GED (General Educational Development) Graduation ceremony held July 24, 2008, at East Central Community College in Decatur. Walley, who lives near the Jasper County line, is shown with ABE/GED instructor Larry Harms of Decatur. Forty-five students walked across the Huff Auditorium stage to receive diplomas from ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin. State Senator Giles Ward of Louisville served as guest speaker. ECCC offers free Adult Basic Education and GED classes at various locations throughout the College's five-county district. For more information contact the ECCC Office of Adult and Continuing Education, 601-635-2111.

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

ECCC students win national awards

East Central Community College students returned to the Decatur campus with first-place awards for the first time and other honors following competition at the 2008 National Phi Beta Lambda Leadership Conference held earlier this summer in Atlanta, Ga.

Four students – Carlos Rice of Louisville, Drew Harrison of Little Rock, and Leslie Nash and Josh Dickerson, both of Union – won top honors in the Parliamentary Procedure competition and will be inducted into the Mississippi PBL Hall of Fame at the organization's State Leadership Conference in 2009.

Brookes Mayes of Newton also received special recognition at the national conference for being selected to PBL's Who's Who in Mississippi. She was given the highest recognition of any Mississippi PBL member. Mayes teamed with Rice and Dickerson to finish seventh in the Small Business Plan competition.

Also winning honors at the national event were Ann Valentine of Hickory and Leslie Hollingsworth of Forest, second place, Community Service Project; Dollye Packer of Lake and Sabra Fortenberry of Union, third, E-business; Nash, fifth, Local Chapter Annual Business Report; Shaun Cooper of Decatur, eighth, Word Processing; and Brooke Barrett of Union, 10th, Partnership with Business Project.

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WEEK OF August 28, 2008

ECCC Practical Nursing Program Graduates... Careers in the health-care area await these graduates of East Central Community College's Practical Nursing Program who received special recognition at the annual pinning ceremony held July 22 on the Decatur campus. Members of the 2008 Class include (first row, from left) Anna Hughes, Pulaski; Dana Maxwell, Chunky; Niecy Barham, Philadelphia; Brittany Nazary, Carthage; Tegan Ward, Little Rock; Meia Strickland, Quitman; Tyeshai Ealy, Lena; Monica Drummond, Newton; and Austin Lloyd, Morton; (second row, from left) Lorraine Johnson, Conehatta; Tawana McDaniel and Myranda McDonald, both of Newton; Jan McNeill, Decatur; Kristi Hardin, Philadelphia; Whitney Crawford, Philadelphia; Autumn Westbrook, Pulaski; and Kelly Miller, instructor; and (third row, from left) Tosha Sanders, instructor; Nahamani Henderson, Newton; Margo Everett, Lake; Jennifer Hollingsworth and Heather Warren, both of Forest; Rachael Rainer, Decatur; and Lakaisah Coleman, Preston. Not pictured is Rebecca Coonce of Forest. Graduates can begin their new careers after passing the National Council of Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses (NCLEX-PN). For more information contact Betsy Mann, dean of Healthcare Education, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 294. The email address is bmann@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF August 25 2008

ECCC Phi Beta Lambda students take top honors at national competition

From press reports

East Central Community College students returned to the Decatur campus with first-place awards for the first time and other honors following competition at the 2008 National Phi Beta Lambda Leadership Conference held earlier this summer in Atlanta, Ga.

Four students – Carlos Rice of Louisville, Drew Harrison of Little Rock, and Leslie Nash and Josh Dickerson, both of Union – won top honors in the Parliamentary Procedure competition and will be inducted into the Mississippi PBL Hall of Fame at the organization's State Leadership Conference in 2009.

"This is the first time we have had a first-place winner at the national competition," said Business Technology instructor Christy Ferguson, who serves as a club adviser. "Our chapter and advisers are obviously very proud of them and all our award winners."

Brookes Mayes of Newton also received special recognition at the national conference for being selected to PBL's Who's Who in Mississippi. She was given the highest recognition of any Mississippi PBL member. Mayes teamed with Rice and Dickerson to finish seventh in the Small Business Plan competition.

Also winning honors at the national event were Ann Valentine of Hickory and Leslie Hollingsworth of Forest, second place, Community Service Project; Dollye Packer of Lake and Sabra Fortenberry of Union, third, E-business; Nash, fifth, Local Chapter Annual Business Report; Shaun Cooper of Decatur, eighth, Word Processing; and Brooke Barrett of Union, 10th, Partnership with Business Project.

Theta Chi also received the prestigious Gold Seal Chapter Award and was recognized for receiving the most awards of any Mississippi chapter.

Displaying awards received at the 2008 National Phi Beta Lambda Leadership Conference are the above members of Theta Chi Chapter at East Central Community College in Decatur, who captured first-place awards for the first time along with numerous other honors. The ECCC students were recognized for winning more honors than any Mississippi chapter during the three-day competition held earlier this summer in Atlanta. Award winners included (first row, from left) Dollye Packer of Lake, third place, E-business competition; and Leslie Hollingsworth of Forest and Ann Valentine of Hickory, second, Community Service Project; (second row, from left) Sabra Fortenberry of Union, third, E-business; Laura Pearson of Louisville, first, Parliamentary Procedure; and Shaun Cooper of Decatur, eighth, Word Processing; (third row, from left) Leslie Nash of Union, first, Parliamentary Procedure and fifth, Local Chapter Annual Business Report; Brookes Mayes of Newton, seventh, Small Business Management Plan and received special recognition for her induction into Who's Who in Mississippi; and Brooke Barrett of Union, 10th, Partnership with Business Project; and (fourth row, from left) Drew Harrison of Little Rock, first, Parliamentary Procedure; and Josh Dickerson of Union and Carlos Rice of Louisville, who won first place in Parliamentary Procedure and placed seventh in the Small Business Management Plan competition. Theta Chi also received the prestigious Gold Seal Chapter Award.

Also attending the national conference were Britni Wright of Louisville, William Cumberland of Union, Jonathan Federick of Hickory and Evans Summers Jones of Walnut Grove, who were among the 17 ECCC students who qualified for the national contest following state competition. Theta Chi advisers Christy Ferguson, Judy Hurtt, and Thomas Fortenberry accompanied students to Atlanta.

Phi Beta Lambda is the premier Business Education Association preparing students for careers in business and success in life. Its purpose is to foster a better relationship between one another and to cultivate a better understanding of business

WEEK OF August 25, 2008

ECCC PHOTO

NATIONAL PBL AWARD WINNERS

Displaying awards received at the 2008 National Phi Beta Lambda Leadership Conference are the above members of Theta Chi Chapter at East Central Community College in Decatur, who captured first-place awards for the first time along with numerous other honors. The ECCC students were recognized for winning more honors than any Mississippi chapter during the three-day competition held earlier this summer in Atlanta. Award winners included (first row, from left) Dollye Packer of Lake, third place, E-business competition; and Leslie Hollingsworth of Forest and Ann Valentine of Hickory, second, Community Service Project; (second row, from left) Sabra Fortenberry of Union, third, E-business; Laura Pearson of Louisville, first, Parliamentary Procedure; and Shaun Cooper of Decatur, eighth, Word Processing; (third row, from left) Leslie Nash of Union, first, Parliamentary Procedure and fifth, Local Chapter Annual Business Report; Brookes Mayes of Newton, seventh, Small Business Management Plan and received special recognition for her induction into Who's Who in Mississippi; and Brooke Barrett of Union, 10th, Partnership with Business Project; and (fourth row, from left) Drew Harrison of Little Rock, first, Parliamentary Procedure; and Josh Dickerson of Union and Carlos Rice of Louisville, who won first place in Parliamentary Procedure and placed seventh in the Small Business Management Plan competition. Theta Chi also received the prestigious Gold Seal Chapter Award.

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WEEK OF 9-01-08

ECCC Paramedic Technology Graduates

Recently completing East Central Community College's Paramedic Technology program include (seated from left) Jessica Ashley of Raleigh, Sherry Kelly of Carthage and Candace Woodson of Philadelphia, and (standing from left) Kyle McCormick of Lawrence, Wesley Stevens of Meridian and Brad Sumrall of Carthage. Also pictured is instructor Katrina Bryant. Members of the 2008 Class received special recognition at the program's annual pinning ceremony held August 11 in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus. Graduates of the two-year program are eligible to take the National Registry Exam for Paramedics to receive certification. For more information contact the ECCC Dean of Healthcare Education, Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 294. The email address is bmann@eccc.edu or kbryant@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 9-01-08

Hill Attends ECCC Orientation

Willie Hill (left) of Philadelphia was among area students who attended the Friday, August 15 orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. Administrative Assistant to the Vice President for Instruction Teri Killens assisted Hill and his wife (right), Yontikkia Hill, with preparing his schedule for fall classes, which began Thursday, Aug. 21. Registration for the fall term will continue through Friday, Sept. 5. For more information, contact ECCC Student Services by phone at 601-635-2111 or call toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The e-mail address to contact is jkillens@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 9-08-08

Selected at ECCC

Hampton elected Freshman Maid at ECCC
Kayla Hampton was elected as one of the Freshman Homecoming Maids in the recent student elections held at East Central Community College. Kayla was a 2008 Honor Graduate of Nanih Waiya High School. She is the daughter of Freddie and Victoria Hampton of Louisville.

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EAST CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Phi Beta Lambda students take top honors at National Competition

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Four students – Carlos Rice of Louisville, Drew Harrison of Little Rock, and Leslie Nash and Josh Dickerson, both of Union – won top honors in the Parliamentary Procedure competition and will be inducted into the Mississippi PBL Hall of Fame at the organization's State Leadership Conference in 2009.

"This is the first time we have had a first-place winner at the national competition," said Business Technology instructor Christy Ferguson, who serves as a club adviser. "Our chapter and advisers are obviously very proud of them and all our award winners."

Brookes Mayes of Newton also received special recognition at the national conference for being selected to PBL's Who's Who in Mississippi. She was given the highest recognition of any Mississippi PBL member. Mayes teamed with Rice and Dickerson to finish seventh in the Small Business Plan competition.

Also winning honors at the national event were Ann Valentine of Hickory and Leslie Hollingsworth of Forest, second place, Community Service Project; Dollye Packer of Lake and Sabra Fortenberry of Union, third, E-business; Nash, fifth, Local Chapter Annual Business Report; Shaun Cooper of Decatur, eighth, Word Processing; and Brooke Barrett of Union, 10th, Partnership with Business Project.

Theta Chi also received the prestigious Gold Seal Chapter Award and was recognized for receiving the most awards of any Mississippi chapter.

Also attending the national conference were Britni Wright of Louisville, William Cumberland of Union, Jonathan Federick of Hickory and Evans Summers Jones of Walnut Grove, who were among the 17 ECCC students who qualified for the national contest following state competition.

Theta Chi advisers Christy Ferguson, Judy Hurtt, Ruth Gregory, Brenda Johnson and Thomas Fortenberry accompanied students to Atlanta.

Phi Beta Lambda is the premier Business Education Association preparing students for careers in business and success in life. Its purpose is to foster a better relationship between one another and to cultivate a better understanding of business principles in general.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ____

UNION APPEAL ____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ____

High school seniors on the fast track to nursing careers

Brittany Brown of Decatur has hopes of becoming a physician one day. Brown, a senior at Newton County Academy, is getting a head start on her medical training by enrolling in the Dual Enrollment/Dual Credit Practical Nursing Program being offered at East Central Community College in Decatur.

Brown and eight other high school seniors from ECCC's five-county district are taking advantage of the new program, which was funded by a grant from the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges. Thanks to the grant, the nine students who qualified for the four-semester program can attend classes free of charge while in high school. The only cost for students is transportation to the Decatur campus, where classes are held at the Associate Degree Nursing/Childcare Technology Building.

Classes began August 11 and are held from 1 to 3 p.m. Monday through Wednesday and 1 to 4 p.m. on Thursday. Melanie Pinter of Philadelphia, who recently joined ECCC's healthcare division, serves as class instructor.

Brown said she was "really excited" when she heard about the special program, and expects no problems juggling her activities as a busy high school senior and a college freshman taking nursing courses.

"I think I can work it out...everyone has been real supportive," said the 17-year-old. "I think it's (the program) going to be good. I've always wanted to be a doctor and taking this program is getting me a step ahead of everything else," she stated. "It will make me or break me!"

Her parents are Todd and Susan Brown.

Betsy Mann, who serves as dean of ECCC's healthcare division, said the Dual Enrollment/Dual Credit Practical Nursing Program is designed to allow high school seniors a "fast track approach" into the nursing field.

"East Central Community College is proud to be participating in this opportunity for our five-county district," she said. "Each year we turn away prospective nursing students due to limitations of funding and student/teacher ratio."

East Central is one of five new pilot sites for the Dual Enrollment/Dual Credit Nursing Program.

For more information contact the Office of Healthcare Education. Phone 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 293 or 240. The email address is bmann@eccc.edu.

The first group of district high school seniors enrolled in the new Dual Enrollment/Dual Credit Practical Nursing Program offered at East Central Community College in Decatur include (seated from left) Brittany Brown and Ethan Lewis, both of Newton County Academy; Ashton Acord, Stormie Corsaro and Amanda Graham, all of Newton County; and (standing from left) Audriann Thomas, Newton County; Sha'Nequa Pinkston, Union; Fallon Mattar, Neshoba Central; and Casie McClendon, Morton. Also pictured is instructor Melanie Pinter. (EC Photo)

WEEK OF 9-15-08

Page 22, 2008 Band and Cheerleader, September 17, 2008

EC photo

The East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Marching Band boasts 150 members for the 2008 term as they present a "themed" show titled "Rock Show." The Wall O' Sound is featured during halftime of all home football games and will also travel and perform during games at Pearl River Community College in Poplarville and Jones Junior College in Ellisville. In addition, the band will play during various exhibitions in the district. At left, members of the percussion ensemble perform during the halftime show.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT ✓

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 9-15-08

ECCC

WRIGHT ATTENDS ORIENTATION: Sheila Wright (right), of Decatur, was among area students who attended the Friday, August 15 orientation session held at East Central Community College in Decatur. She is shown with Marci Pinson, secretary to the Vice President of Student Services, who provided assistance in planning her class schedule for the fall term. Registration for fall classes will continue through Friday, Sept. 5. For more information, contact ECCC Student Services by phone at 601-635-2111 or call toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 205. The e-mail address to contact is jkillens@eccc.edu.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD ✓

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 9-22-08

ECCC Homecoming Court

Members of the 2008 East Central Community College Homecoming Court and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) sophomore maids Candi Vance and Joy Hayes, both of Newton County; queen Emily Thrash, Sebastopol; maid-of-honor Briana Edison, Collins; and sophomore maid Becky Culpepper, Scott Central; and (back row, from left) freshman maids Hannah Watkins, Sebastopol; Savanna Smith, Newton County; Bailey Brown, East Rankin Academy; and Kayla Hampton, Nanih Waiya. The court will be presented during halftime activities of the Warriors' Homecoming game against Southwest Mississippi Community College scheduled Saturday, September 27 on the Decatur campus. Kick-off is set for 2:30 p.m. in Bailey Stadium. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 9-22-08

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

LandBank South presents scholarships

Land Bank South, FLCA has awarded Jesse Luke of Chunky an academic scholarship for 2008. He is the son of Mike and Christi Luke and graduated from Newton County High School. Jesse will be attending Meridian Community College.

Land Bank South, FLCA has awarded Kristen May of Walnut Grove an academic scholarship for 2008. Ms. May is the daughter of Timothy and Cynthia May and attends ECCC.

Zachary Clay of DeKalb receives scholarship from Land Bank South Land Bank South, FLCA has awarded Zachary Clay of Dekalb, an academic scholarship for 2008. He is the son of Bruce and Lauren Clay and attends EMCC.

Land Bank South, FLCA has awarded Joshua Easterling of Raleighan academic scholarship for 2008. He is the son of Tommy and Brenda Easterling and attends JCCC.

The Land Bank South Scholarships are awarded annually to 17 students from the areas served by Land Bank South across central and south Mississippi based upon criteria set forth by the bank. At the 2008 Land Bank South Annual Stockholder's Meeting, Ben Elliott, Vice President of Operations, advised that the awarding of scholarships would be an on going program as a result of the board's pledge to reward outstanding students and commitment to support them in their educational pursuits.

The association is a part of the nationwide Farm Credit System and provides rural real estate, country home and agribusiness financing in 50 counties in south Mississippi. Headquartered in Flowood, Land Bank South has branch offices in Brookhaven, Flowood, Greenville, Greenwood, Hattiesburg, Lucedale, Newton, Poplarville and Magee.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 9·29·08

NATIONAL HONORS

SUBMITTED PHOTO

These East Central Community College students won first-place honors in the Parliamentary Procedure competition at the National Phi Beta Lambda Leadership Conference held in Atlanta. Seated, from left, are Laura Pearson of Louisville and Leslie Nash of Union; and standing, from left, are Drew Harrison of Little Rock, Josh Dickerson of Union and Carlos Rice of Louisville. Nash also finished fifth in Local Chapter Annual Business Report, and Dickerson and Rice finished seventh in the Small Business Management Plan competition. The ECCC students – members of Theta Chi Chapter – captured first-place honors for the first time at the national contest and were recognized for winning more honors than any Mississippi chapter. Theta Chi also received the prestigious Gold Seal Chapter Award.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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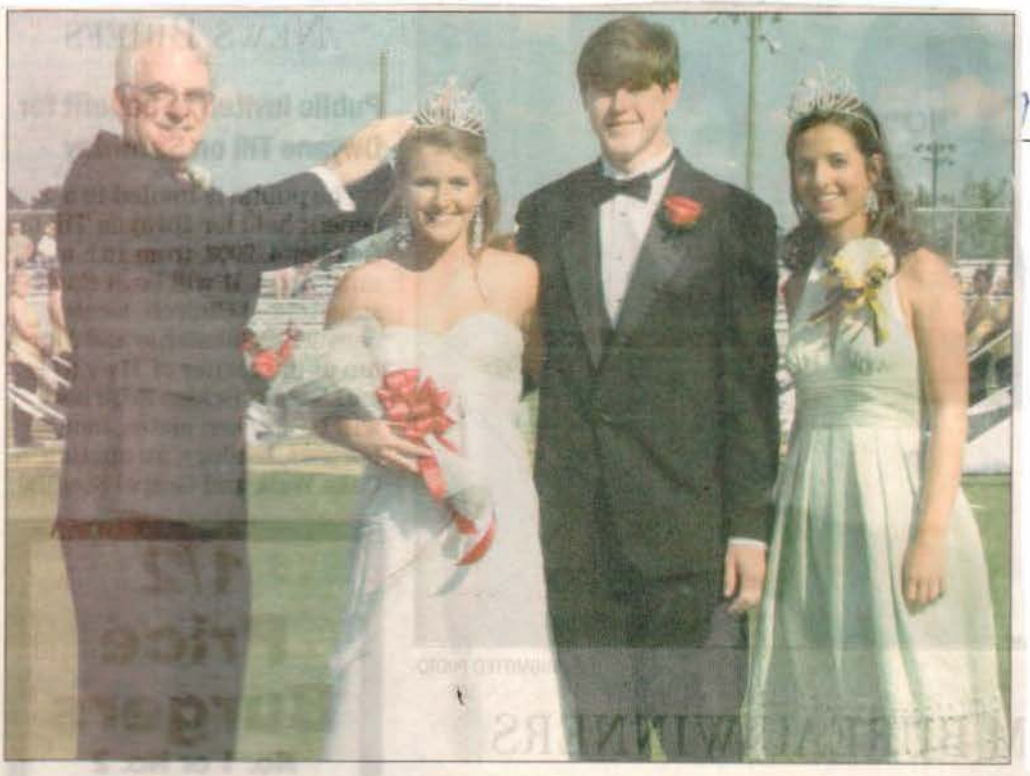
THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

1-29-08



THRASH NAMED

Above, left, Emily Thrash of Sebastopol (second from left) was recently crowned 2008 Homecoming Queen at East Sebastopol. Presenting flowers was 2007 Homecoming Queen Dru Anderson of Decatur. Emily is the daughter of row, from left) sophomore maids Joy Hayes and Candi Vance, both of Decatur; and Becky Culpepper of Forest; Bailey Brown of Morton and Savanna Smith of Ocean Springs; and (back row, from left) escorts Sam Lewis and erson of Union, Zach Boswell of Louisville and Drew Wilson of Little Rock. The court was presented Saturday,

ECCC PHOTOS

ECCC HOMECOMING QUEEN

Central Community College in Decatur by College president Dr. Phil A. Sutphin (left). Serving as the queen's escort was Daniel Byram (third from left) of Danny and Susan Thrash of Sebastopol. Above, right, members of the 2008 Homecoming Court at East Central Community College in Decatur include (front maid-of-honor Briana Edison of Collins; queen Emily Thrash of Sebastopol; and freshman maids Kayla Hampton of Louisville, Hannah Watkins of Sebastopol, Zach Pillsbury, both of Decatur; Patrick Patterson of Philadelphia, David Bender of Heidelberg, Daniel Byram of Sebastopol, Victor Taylor of Macon, Josh Dick- September 27, 2008 during halftime of the ECCC vs. Southwest Mississippi Community College football game.

Kilpatrick, Clark inducted in ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame

from staff reports

DECATUR – Former East Central Community College athletic coordinator and head football coach A.J. Kilpatrick and the late Diamond Warrior head coach Jamie Clark are the newest members of the college's Athletic Hall of Fame during recent homecoming activities on the Decatur campus.

A.J. Kilpatrick

Kilpatrick, an ECCC alumnus who led the Warrior football program from 1982 to 1992, successfully guided community/junior college and high school football teams to an overall 238-138-12 record during his 36-year career as a head coach.

His resume includes a state junior college championship and several division titles, conference crowns on the high school level and several bowl game victories. He also won championships as a high school basketball and track coach.

"Although I never really finished the job I would have liked to at East Central in winning a championship, I really appreciate the College for remembering me and my family with this award," Kilpatrick said after being notified of his selection.

Kilpatrick, a Philadelphia native residing in Grenada, has a long list of personal honors, the most recent being his selection to the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Football Hall of Fame, which was announced in August. He was inducted into the Mississippi Association of Coaches Hall of Fame in 1986.

Additional honors include Choctaw Conference "Coach of the Year" in 1961 and 1965. He also received "Coach of the Year" recognition from The Commercial Dis-

Kilpatrick excelled in football and basketball at East Central; however, a football injury near the end of his sophomore season cut his career short.

He transferred to the University of Southern Mississippi and received a bachelor's degree in health and physical education in 1954. He later earned a master's degree in school administration (1971) from Mississippi College. Kilpatrick began his coaching career in 1954 as an assistant at J.Z. George High School in Carrollton. He helped lead the Senators to the Cotton Bowl Conference Championship his first year and the conference runner-up title the following year. The team's two-year record when he was on staff was 14-7. He also served as a head basketball coach and led the 1954-55 men's team to the conference crown.

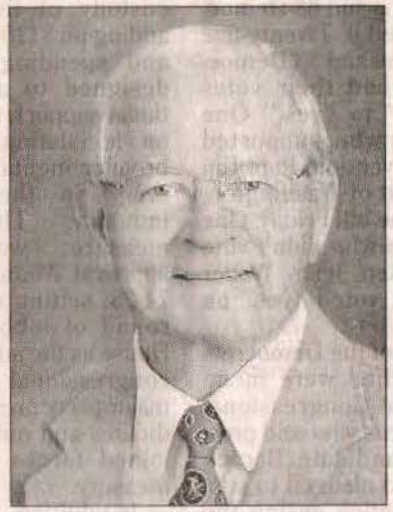
His first stint as head coach was at Noxubee High School in Macon in 1955. He successfully led the Tigers for 10 seasons, capturing two Choctaw Conference titles en route to an overall 76-21-5 record. During this period, he was also selected as an assistant coach on the North High School All-Star football team in 1962.

Kilpatrick also served as Noxubee's head basketball coach and led the 1965-66 boys' squad to conference and district titles and three invitational tournament crowns and a 24-4 record.

In addition, he found success as track coach and led girls' teams to three state titles, six district championships and a conference crown.

"One of the major highlights of my career as a player and coach involved the Choctaw Conference," Kilpatrick stated. "Winning a conference title as a basketball player then capturing conferences titles in football, basketball and track as a coach was very special."

Kilpatrick left Macon in 1965 for



Kilpatrick

Clark

season berth. He said when he took over the ECCC football program, he knew winning would be a challenge, mainly due to the small recruiting district.

"We did not have as extensive a recruiting district as the other junior colleges at that time," Kilpatrick stated. "We worked very hard to get our recruiting district expanded ... but were not able to take advantage of the additional players EC was eventually allowed to sign from Alabama."

Thanks mainly to Kilpatrick, ECCC's recruiting district for football includes Tuscaloosa County, Ala., from where 10 players are considered as in-district signees each year. Other small community and junior colleges have also benefitted from Kilpatrick's efforts in revising the recruiting process.

When he left EC, Kilpatrick said he had several offers to continue coaching, "but I was afraid it might affect my state retirement. Plus, I have really enjoyed watching my grandkids grow up and following their participation in sports."

Kilpatrick and his wife Versie have two sons and a daughter.

would be shared by those who played for him. This is so wonderfully deserving ... my feelings, as well as our kids' feelings, are so overwhelming and emotional concerning this honor."

Audrey said coaching at East Central "was not just a job to Jamie; it was his life living out his dream. He loved coaching baseball at East Central and loved being a part of the ECCC family."

Audrey, a fourth-grade teacher in Austin, said Jamie touched lives on and of the field.

"Jamie was an amazing coach on the field but also an amazing leader off the field," she said. "I feel those who played for him left East Central a much better person. He often said that his successes were the successes of those who played for him."

She added, "Jamie began a respectable baseball program at East Central and I'm sure he is looking down smiling at Neal (Holliman) and all the improvements being made (with the baseball program). Jamie lived his life with dignity and honor, and I am so blessed that he shared his life with me. I

through the many post-season appearances."

One aspiring goal that Clark was unable to achieve was winning a Region 23 title, although his teams appeared in five region tournaments. He was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor prior to the 2001 season and lost his battle to cancer at age 49 later that year on July 18. The Diamond Warrior stadium was named in his honor the following year. Clark's jersey #41 was also retired and is prominently displayed in the lobby of the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. A replica of the jersey is displayed on the right field fence at Clark Stadium.

Sportswriter Marty Stamper, in an article following Clark's death, quoted his friend's explanation for not capturing a Region crown.

"We're just two players away ...," Stamper said Clark told him on several occasions, and following a long pause gave the following answer: "Babe Ruth and Cy Young!"

Stamper also noted in his article that coaching "was only a small part" of Clark's legacy, as indicated by the number of former Diamond Warriors who selected coaching as a career.

In addition to Coach Hill, Brian Hardy is another of Clark's former players who entered the coaching profession. Hardy, a Philadelphia High School product, served as co-captain with Ron Perkins of Louisville on the 1998 state championship squad, which is also being honored at homecoming.

Hardy is in his ninth year at Madison Central High School and serves as pitching coach. He helped lead Madison Central to the 2002 State 5A Championship and runner-up titles in 2006 and 2007.

"Coach Clark meant so much to a lot of us," Hardy said. "He demanded effort and never looked the other way when things weren't

patch in 1966, WLBT-TV in 1967, Northeast Mississippi Athletic Conference in 1974, Jackson Jaycees in 1968, National High School Athletic Coaches Association (Southeastern Regional District IV) in 1981, Mississippi Junior College Athletic Association in 1981; and Jackson Daily News in 1983.

His list of service to various coaches' associations is also extensive and includes a term as president of the Mississippi Coaches' Association in 1978-79.

Although he enjoyed a long, successful coaching career, Kilpatrick said he has greater pride "in seeing the young men and women that I coached have successful careers in whatever field they chose to follow."

Kilpatrick's success in athletics first began when he was a standout athlete at Philadelphia High School. He received All-State and All-Choctaw Conference honors in basketball his junior year and helped lead the Tornadoes to the conference championship and an appearance in the overall state tournament. He also made the All-Conference football squad his senior season.

The 1950 PHS graduate received a scholarship to the University of Mississippi to play for the legendary coach John Vaught, which Kilpatrick regards as his "biggest accomplishment" as an athlete.

He was a member of the Rebel squad during his freshman year and returned for his sophomore season. But after one week of practice, Kilpatrick left Ole Miss.

"Versie and I married during the summer of 1951, prior to my sophomore year," Kilpatrick said. "And since Coach Vaught did not allow married players on his teams, I transferred to East Central."

Jackson Wingfield, where his three-year mark as the school's first head football coach was 16-13-2 and included a South Big 8 Conference co-championship in 1968. He also served as head coach of the South High School All-Stars in the summer of 1968.

He began his community/junior college coaching career in 1969 at East Mississippi Community College in Scooba, leading the Lions to a 16-4 record and the MACJC North Division title.

Kilpatrick returned to high school competition in 1971 and led the Louisville Wildcats to a 34-5-1 record and two Choctaw Conference crowns and the Northwest Athletic Conference championship.

He left Louisville in 1975 and returned to the community/junior college setting where he again found success. He led Northwest Mississippi Community College to a 26-13-2 mark and a MACJC North Division title during his four-year tenure. He also served as athletic director.

Kilpatrick took over the football program at Hickory High School for the 1979-80 season, during which the Bulldogs finished 4-5.

He returned to the JUCO level and coached Holmes Community College football teams from 1980-82, and led the Bulldogs to the 1981 state championship and a berth in the Garland Junior College Bowl in Garland, Texas. His two-year record at Holmes was 15-8.

Kilpatrick completed his coaching career at East Central, with his most success coming in 1987. The Warriors were MACJC South Division runners-up and fell in first-round action to eventual state champion Northwest, finishing with a 7-4 mark.

Kilpatrick was unable to lead the Warriors to another post-

Andrew (Andy) James Kilpatrick Jr., an attorney in Jackson, is married to the former Debbie Martin of Grenada. James Lewis Kilpatrick of Batesville, who is deceased, was married to the former Patsy Float and had two children, Stephanie Kilpatrick and James (J.J.) Lewis Kilpatrick. Sandra Kilpatrick Jones works for the USDA-Rural Development Agency in Grenada and is married to Tommy Jones. They have two children, Casey Lee Jones and Katie Lee Jones.

Jamie Clark

Serving as East Central Community College's baseball coach was a "dream job" to the late Jamie Clark, according to his widow, Audrey Clark Hastey, who lives in Austin, Texas.

Clark's "dream job" resulted in a "dream season" in 1998 as he led the Diamond Warriors to their first state championship en route to a 32-22 record. Clark was named "MACJC Baseball Coach of the Year" following the successful campaign.

Clark, who began his tenure in 1988, led the ECCC baseball program through the 2001 campaign, amassing an overall 365-301-1 record. His first Diamond Warrior squad went 17-25, then came 11 straight non-losing seasons (the 1991 team finished at 20-20). The most season wins came in 1997, when the Diamond Warriors – led by current major leaguer Marcus Thames of the Detroit Tigers – collected 40 victories and finished state runners-up.

Regarding her late husband's selection to the ECCC Athletic Hall of Fame, Audrey said, "Jamie would be so grateful and proud to be included in the Athletic Hall of Fame ... but he would make sure that this prestigious recognition know he will always be remembered and that his legacy will live on through those whose lives were touched by him."

Holliman, who led the Diamond Warriors to the 2007 state title in his first year as head coach, served as one of Jamie's assistants during the 1998 championship season.

He said of his former coach:

"Jamie was a unique individual. He was very serious and passionate about what he did, but was also able to keep a sense of humor about him that was great. I truly miss him and owe him a lot for what he has taught me."

Holliman said he learn more than just baseball from Coach Clark.

"He taught me more than just coaching; he taught me how to treat people and that there were more to athletics than winning and losing. Although Jamie was very focused on winning and it was very important to him, he was also concerned with developing young men," Holliman stated. "He was simply a very honest and simple man. He was and always will be a part of my life. I truly feel part of my drive to continually build this program is because I know the effort and passion he poured into this program."

Added current ECCC head softball coach Scott Hill, a member of Clark's 1989 Diamond Warrior squad:

"He was extremely passionate about his job and left a lasting impression upon so many individuals that had a chance to be around him. He was a mentor to me as well as many others that attended East Central and played for him," Hill said. "Coach Clark accepted a great responsibility in bringing the Warrior baseball program to respectability. He definitely achieved this by his record and completed properly. He wasn't always easy to play for, but the great coaches never are. He knew what made players perform."

Hardy continued, "Coach Clark was famous for taking average players and making them play beyond their potential. Looking back he had to, because the district around East Central is made up of small high schools that produced a lot of 'scrappy' players who aren't scared of working hard. He knew that was the case (at East Central) and more importantly he knew how to coach that type of player."

Hardy said Clark gave him some advice that he uses daily in his coaching efforts:

"There are three ways to get a player to work hard: you can be in his face all the time; you can pat him on the back and encourage him; or you can ignore him."

Hardy said Coach Clark went on to say that the hardest job for a coach is to find out which approach works best for each player.

Clark, a West Point native, began his coaching career on the high school level, with stints at Marvell, Ark.; Humphreys Academy in Belzoni; and Southland (Missouri) High School. The Delta State University graduate led Humphreys Academy to three state runners-up titles and his Southland squad placed third in the Missouri State Championship.

The Clark family includes four children and seven grandchildren. Nicki Clark, Jamie and Audrey's only child, lives in Austin. Billy and Tiffany Turner reside in Slidell, La., and have three sons, Will, Darrien and Drew. Kevin and Lindsey Turner live in Austin and have two daughters, Grace and Anna Claire, and a son, Alex. Daniel and Leslie Turner are residents of Charlotte, N.C., and have a son, Evan.

WEEK OF 9-29-08

ECCC Homecoming

ECCC PHOTO

5K WINNERS

East Central Community College hosted a 5K Run/Walk as part of its homecoming festivities Saturday, Sept. 27. The race featured 71 participants. The overall female winner was Kim Crenshaw of Meridian with a time of 25:23 minutes. Mike Thrailkill of Hickory was the overall male winner with a time of 18:33 minutes. First-place division winners in their respective age groups are, front row from left, Dixie Rivers of Oxford, Ala., Jeff Grimshel of Vicksburg, Huel Sills of Vicksburg, Emily Baysinger of Philadelphia, Crenshaw and Roxanna McCarty of Philadelphia; back row from left, Lee Wilson of Meridian, Thrailkill, Buddy Pierce of Meridian, James Shaidnagle of Newton, Andrew Hanna of Union, Janice Crawford Collins of Meridian and Shannon McMullan of Decatur. First place division winners not pictured are Emily Franklin of Union, Lori McMullan of Decatur, Judy Crowson of Meridian, Neal Holliman and Joe Killens, both of Decatur.

APPEARED IN:

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NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

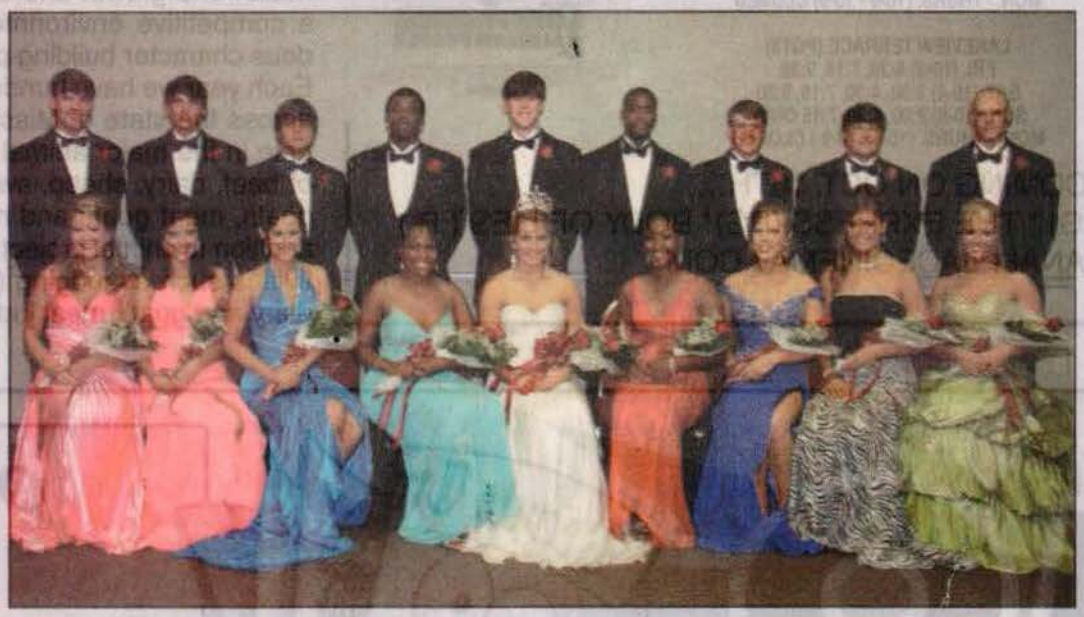
MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 9-29-08

ECCC Homecoming Court



Members of the 2008 Homecoming Court at East Central Community College in Decatur include (front row, from left) sophomore maids Joy Hayes and Candi Vance, both of Decatur; and Becky Culpepper of Forest; maid-of-honor Briana Edison of Collins; queen Emily Thrash of Sebastopol; and freshman maids Kayla Hampton of Louisville, Hannah Watkins of Sebastopol, Bailey Brown of Morton and Savanna Smith of Ocean Springs; and (back row, from left) escorts Sam Lewis and Zach Pillsbury, both of Decatur; Patrick Patterson of Philadelphia, David Bender of Heidelberg, Daniel Byram of Sebastopol, Victor Taylor of Macon, Josh Dickerson of Union, Zach Boswell of Louisville and Drew Wilson of Little Rock. The court was presented Saturday, September 27, 2008 during halftime of the ECCC vs. Southwest Mississippi Community College football game. (EC Photo)

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

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WEEK OF 7-29-08

ECCC reaches second highest enrollment in college's history

special to The Star

DECATUR – The drive for higher education continues to increase and with that force the enrollment for classes at East Central Community College reached the second highest number in the college's history.

EC enrolled 2,640 students for the fall 2008 term just 99 students shy of the College's highest enrollment of 2,739 reached in 2004. Prospective college students continually feel the need for higher education with the demands of the workforce, ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin said.

"As the economy changes more individuals see the benefits of post-secondary educational opportunities," Sutphin said. "Employees must compete on a global scale for jobs and the kind of educational opportunities available at EC will give employees the tools to compete."

With the opening door of educational opportunities, EC maintains options for students in all areas, Sutphin said.

"Students may come to EC for several reasons," Sutphin said. "Some may want to take a few classes to improve specific skills or knowledge; others may want to obtain a degree in a skill area to move directly into the workforce, while others may want the first two years of a bachelor's degree. The college also provides workforce training opportunities to help employees and employers improve in specific areas that are critical to success in today's economy."

Student retention and recruitment are part of the strong base for EC's enrollment increase.

"EC continues to provide quality educational opportunities for the citizens of our five-county district and the public relations and recruiting teams have done a good job of telling the EC story," Sutphin said.

East Central not only offers students educational opportunities, but also gives them the chance to become involved in extracurricular activities.

ECCC Vice President for Student Services Joe Killens said EC students pride themselves on taking part in campus activities.

"There are more than 30 student clubs and organizations on campus that help attract students to East Central," Killens said. "Our students are very involved and recruit one another to become involved in these groups. It is this type of atmosphere that makes East Central a welcoming and inviting student body that prospective students want to become part of."

In the future, Sutphin said the college will continue to improve the teaching/learning process.

"We will ensure that students leave with a strong background in their chosen field or the specifics set of skills that they hoped to obtain," he said.

For more information, contact ECCC Student Services by phone at 601-635-2111 or call toll free (877) 462-3222, ext. 205. The e-mail address to contact is jkillens@eccc.edu.

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CARTHAGINIAN _____

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SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR ✓

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 10·13·08

ECCC Warrior Corps includes four countians

East Central Community College recently welcomed 40 new members of the Warrior Corps, students who assist in recruiting and special events on the Decatur campus.

Members are chosen through an interview process and are required to have at least a 2.0 grade point average.

New corps members from Leake County are Amelia Burnside, Amanda Griffith, Lacy McMurry and Joyce "Leanne" White.

Burnside, a freshman physical therapy major, is a graduate of Edinburg High School.

Her parents are George and Cindy Burnside of Carthage.

Griffith, a freshman pre-med major, is an honor graduate of Edinburg.

She is the daughter of James and Beckie Griffith of Carthage.

McMurry, a sophomore business major, is a graduate of Edinburg High School.

Her parents are Dwight and Teresa McMurry.

White, a freshman nursing major, is a graduate of Edinburg High School.

Her parents are Willie White and Charles and Annette Joyner of Carthage.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 10·13·08

East Central CC Cheerleaders

Members of the 2008-09 cheerleading squad at East Central Community College and their respective high schools include (laying in front) Warrior mascot Daniel Cheatham, Neshoba Central; (front row, from left) Anna Williams and Abby McMillan, both of Newton County Academy; Adrienne McDill, Newton County; Erin Huffman, West Lauderdale; and Cayla Boyd, Carthage; (second row) Emily Thrash, Sebastopol; Kacy Covert, West Lauderdale; Juley Taylor, East Rankin Academy; Anna Munn, West Lauderdale; Kayla Adcock, Winston Academy; and Dekota Anthony, Neshoba Central; and (back row) Daniel Steverson, Newton County Academy; Will Emmons, Lake; Randy Carl Arledge, Neshoba Central; Jonathan Federick, Newton County; and Kolby Sisson, Noxapater. Huellen Watson serves as sponsor.

ECCC photo

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ___
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ___
UNION APPEAL ___
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ___
SPIRIT OF MORTON ___
DEMOCRAT ___
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STAR ___
CLARION-LEDGER ___
THE PHILADELPHIAN ___

WEEK OF 10-13-08

Four area students join ECCC PTK

Four area residents were among 30 East Central Community College students recently inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa

PTK is an international honor society for two-year colleges.

Those joining the organization, which requires at least a 3.5 grade point average earned as a full-time student, were Christopher Scott Clark, Lena; Kimberly Shea Norman and Lila Elizabeth Shaw, both of Sebastopol; and Keevin Lannis Windham, Walnut Grove.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

Area Students Joining ECCC Warrior Corps...These East Central Community College students from Newton County are new members of the Warrior Corps, a select group of students who assist in recruiting and special events on the Decatur campus. Joining the prestigious organization and their respective high schools are (seated from left) Laura Alexander, a home-school student from Little Rock; Donna Strickland, Newton County Academy; and Kim Amerson, Lacey Gilmore, Kimberly Amerson and Kyle Killens, all products of Newton County High School; and (standing from left) Savannah Smith and Adrienne McDill, both of Newton County; Abby McMillan and Landon Burt, both of Newton County Academy; Sha Coleman, Newton County; Bill Flowers, Newton; and Trey Herrington, Union. Student Services personnel Lanette Hanna and Romonica Evans serve as Warrior Corps sponsors. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ____

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WEEK OF 10.12.08

FCA officers

East Central Community College in Decatur has announced Fellowship of Christian Athletes officers for 2008-09, including, from left, front, club sponsor Coach Scott Hill; Genny Freeman of Laurel, vice president; Emily Wooten of Carthage, secretary; back, Derek Crenshaw of Philadelphia, treasurer; and Timothy Maloney of Meridian, president.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 10-13-08

ECCC Inducts 30 New Phi Theta Kappa Members

Thirty East Central Community College students were inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the International Honor Society of the Two-Year College, during the fall semester induction ceremony held recently on the Decatur campus.

Joining the prestigious organization – which requires at least a 3.5 grade point average earned as a full-time student – are Adrienne Marie Bird and Bailey Allyn Brown, both of Morton; Shaquita Antrenett Brown, Melissa Louise Moody and Demetrice Ann Taylor, all of Meridian; Christopher Scott Clark, Lena; Vickie Marie Collins, Noxapater; Jessie Lea Critz, Brandi Mae Mathes, Dustin Brett Pope and Kyndall Caitlin Rushing, all of Philadelphia; Ashlyn Jordan Dunn, Brandon; Veronica Dyann Evans and Anna Catherine Munn, both of Collinsville; Jasen D'Marte Fairley, Collins; Lance Alan Goodin, Kelly Marie McMillin and Amelia Margaret Salley, both of Louisville; Gary David Mart, Forest; Dominique Latesch McKee, Benjamin Bounds Thames and Theresa Rochelle White, all of Newton; Kimberly Shea Norman and Lila Elizabeth Shaw, both of Sebastopol; Tammy Lynn Plaisance and Tyler Cameron Hansford, both of Union; Justin Thomas Traylor, Florence; and Keevin Lannis Windham, Walnut Grove.

ECCC faculty members Kate Covich, Deborah Hammons and Curt Skipper serve as advisers.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 10.13.08

East Central Community College hosts Career-Technical Showcase

Students from area high school career-technical centers learned about the various programs offered at East Central Community College while attending the College's Career and Technical Showcase on Sept. 30 on the Decatur campus.

Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center students (from left) Lauren Nicholas, Laurel Burnett and Abbie Joiner review information about EC's Associate Degree Nursing program during the showcase's festivities. The first annual event welcomed approximately 350 high school students from the area in the South Campus gymnasium and showcased 20 programs offered at the College. The day's activities also featured food, fun and entertainment with performances by the East Central Centralettes and Wall O' Sound Marching Band's drumline. For more information about the career-technical programs offered at ECCC, contact Dean of Career-Technical Education Wayne Eason or Christi Gregory, career-technical counselor, at 601-635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 211 or 214. The e-mail addresses are weason@eccc.edu and cgregory@eccc.edu. (EC Photo)

APPEAR

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 10·20·08

Spirit of Morton

Scott County Students in ECCC Band

East Central Community College students from Scott County who are members of the 2008-09 Wall O' Sound Marching Band include (first row, from left) Wendy Cater and Brandy Gomillion, both products of Sebastopol High School; Bailey Brown of Morton, East Rankin Academy; Brooke Culpepper, Scott Central; Ysabel Avalos, Morton; Becky Culpepper, Scott Central; and Hannah Watkins, Reaghan Mayes and Brittany Fedrick, all of Sebastopol; (second row, from left) Christina Gibbs, Lake; Paula Parker, Morton; Rachel Ramirez, Forest; Naomi Massey, Sebastopol; Margie Black, Lake; Lindsey Stewart, Meaghan Mayes and Miriah Barney, all of Sebastopol; Brittany Gibbs, Lake; and Nicole Gray, Leslie Graham and Teddy Bloodshaw, all of Forest; and (third row, from left) Brandon Gibbs, Lake; Fred Burkes and Kristina Ealy, both of Forest; Julia Patrick, Scott Central; Jasmine Earby, Morton; Courtney Patrick, Forest; Cody Thrash, Walnut Grove; and Javier Araujo and Matthew Moore, both of Morton. Thomas W. Carson serves as director of bands and Jared Brownlee is assistant director.
(EC Photo

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____
SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____
UNION APPEAL _____
WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____
SPIRIT OF MORTON ✓

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____
NEWTON RECORD _____
MERIDIAN STAR _____
CLARION-LEDGER _____
THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 10·20·08

SURGICAL STUDENTS ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Officers of East Central Community College's East Central Surgical Technology Students Association for 2008-09 include: front row, from left, Kristy Boswell of Union, president; and Missy Williamson of Louisville, historian; back row, from left, Shaquita Brown of Meridian, secretary; Jason Yarbrough of Carthage, vice president; and Synica Bester of Philadelphia, treasurer. The organization consists of surgical technology students who are members of the national organization, Association of Surgical Technologists. The organization is designed to help students acquire knowledge and skills essential for preparing them for a surgical technology career.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

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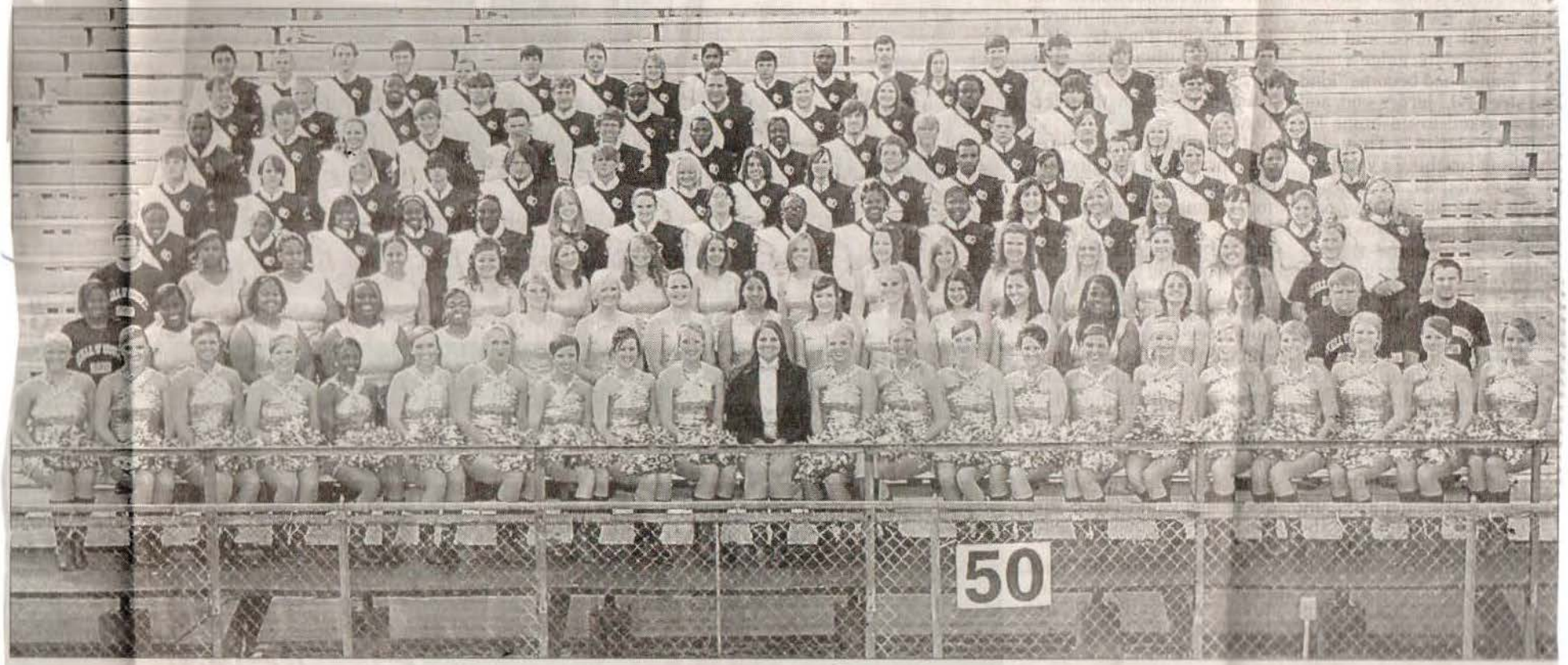
ECCC WALL O' SOUND MARCHING BAND



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Members of the East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Marching Band for 2008-09 include: front row, from left: Savanna Smith, Decatur; Lauren Luke, Preston; Bailey Brown, Morton; Hannah Watkins, Union; Denetra Darden and Alison Lowery, both of Louisville; Anna Johnson and Candi Vance, both of Union; Brooke Culpepper, Forest; Tiffany Thomas, Noxapater; Ysabel Avalos, Morton; Lacy McMurry, Carthage; Lana Adkins, Union; Nicole Dunavent, Newton; Becky Culpepper, Forest; Jacqueline Robinson, Greenwood; Anna Fulton, Louisville; and Erica Dowell, Carthage. Second row, from left, Amanda Hampton, Louisville; Kimberly Amerson, Decatur; Miata Evans, Lawrence; Racheal Day, Union; Deandra Graham and Erin Goldmon, both of Philadelphia; Wendy Cater, Conehatta; Celeste Franklin and Shea Williamson, both of Philadelphia; Brandy Gomillion, Walnut Grove; Monika McMahan, Collinsville; Crystal Walker, Philadelphia; Rachel Oatman, Saucier; Kim Amerson, Decatur; Brittany Snow, Jordan McMichael and Josh Talbert, all of Philadelphia; and Chris Corley, Carthage; Third row, from left, Anthony Williams, Decatur; Shaterica Curry and Brooke Caraway, both of Newton; Meagan Vaughn and Brittany Fedrick, both of Philadelphia; Candi Wade, Pulaski; Candie Willis, Union; Megan Sharp, Philadelphia; Reaghan Mayes, Conehatta; Lee Hunt, Ackerman; Lindsey Donald, Alison Walker, Ashton Lowrey and Allison Rogers, all of Louisville; Beverly Stokes, Philadelphia; Nicole Gray, Forest; and Nichole Franklin, Philadelphia; Fourth row, from left, Shardae Foley, Hickory; Marquitta Moore, Newton; Jerica Taylor, Demetria Coleman and Conashya Headd, all of Louisville; Jessica Cherry, Carthage; Margie Black, Pulaski; Paula Parker, Jasmine Earby and Kristina Ealy, all of Morton; Julia Patrick and Rachel Ramirez, both of Forest; Marlee Deweese, Philadelphia; Olivia Scott and Sallie Evans, both of Carthage; Naomi Massey, Forest; and Brandi Tollett, Louisville; Fifth row, from left, Chris Evans, Philadelphia; Bobby Branning, Collinsville; Christina Gibbs, Lake; J.D. McNeil, Louisville; Chris Smith, Decatur; Graylon Foster, Philadelphia; Ruby McCurdy and Jacklyn Billingsley, both of Carthage; Whitney Bryan, Philadelphia; Aaron Mann, Carthage; Van Williams, Newton; Courtney Patrick and Matthew Moore, both of Forest; Stacy Henderson, Pulaski; Kevin Haynes, Louisville; and Paige Jones, Newton; Sixth row, from left, Neil Smith, Louisville; Griffin Burk, Philadelphia; Leslie Graham, Forest; Drew Johnston, Carthage; Patrick Parker, Raleigh; Corbin Jenkins, Carthage; Fred Burks, Forest; Deandrea Boyd, Carthage; Matt Woods, Mathew Long and Clay Winstead, all of Philadelphia; Kristina Harrison, Decatur; Lacey Gilmore, Union; Meaghan Mayes, Conehatta; and Emilee Lanier, Little Rock; Seventh row, from left, Kyle Barrett, Decatur; Jonathan Crabtree, Vicksburg; Dexter McDonald, Jackson; Jon Hillman, Philadelphia; Ellis Pinkard, Carthage; Shunn Frazier, Ackerman; Brandon Gibbs, Lake; Lindsey Stuart, Union; Miriah Barney, Walnut Grove; DiMario Parkes, Macon; Paul Edwards, Sturgis; Brett Latimer, Philadelphia; and Hank Berison, Union; and Top row, from left, Javier Araujo, Morton; Cody Thrash, Walnut Grove; Dale Alberts, Bailey; Brandon Hughes, Union; Brittany Gibbs, Lake; John David Bates and Casey Stokes, both of Philadelphia; Emily Malone, Carthage; Julian Greer and Jacob Phillips, both of Philadelphia; Teddy Bloodsaw, Forest; Travis Smallwood and Anna Switzer, both of Meridian; Nathan Calvert and Doug Janz II, both of Louisville; Nathan Spears, Union; and Brewer McGee and Justin Weathers, both of Philadelphia. Thomas W. Carson serves as director of bands and Jared Brownlee is assistant director.

WEEK OF 10-20-08

Former members of the East Central Community College Gospel Choir performed a reunion concert Oct. 5, 2008, in recognition of sponsor Brenda K. Johnson's 20th anniversary in leading the group. The Gospel Choir alumni are shown prior to their performance in Huff Auditorium on ECCC's Decatur campus. Also participating in the special program were the Revs. Timothy Croft and Marcus Mann, invocation; Delane Hudson, welcome; Elder James Young, master of ceremony; Kathy D. Sanders, occasion and gospel choir history; current gospel choir members; Children of Christ, Morton; Newton High School Gospel Choir; Terance Anderson and former gospel choir members, presentation of gifts; Mrs. Johnson, acknowledgement; and Rev. Mann, closing prayer. The Gospel Choir began in 1985 by the late Mrs. Lawrence Tingle and Ms. Sharron Goodman Hill. Mrs. Johnson began serving as choir sponsor in 1988.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 10-27-08

ECCC RH Council

Residence Hall Council members for 2008-09 have been announced for East Central Community College in Decatur. The organization consists of students who assist the Director of Student Life in supervising dormitories. The group is composed of resident assistants and other at-large members. Members include: (front row, from left) Brandi Tollett and Courtney Cravens; (back row, from left) Zachary Eaves and Albert Hunt, all of Louisville. For more information about EC Residence Council, contact Director of Student Life Jonathan Peeples at 601-635-6213 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 213.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 10-27-08

ECCC PTK

These East Central Community College students from Winston County were recently inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the International Honor Society of the Two-Year College. From left are Vickie Collins of Noxapater, and Lance Goodin and Amelia Salley, both of Louisville. Membership in the prestigious organization is by invitation only and requires a minimum 3.5 grade point average earned as a full-time student. ECCC faculty members Kate Kovich, Deborah Hammons and Curt Skipper serve as advisers.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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WEEK OF 10-27-08

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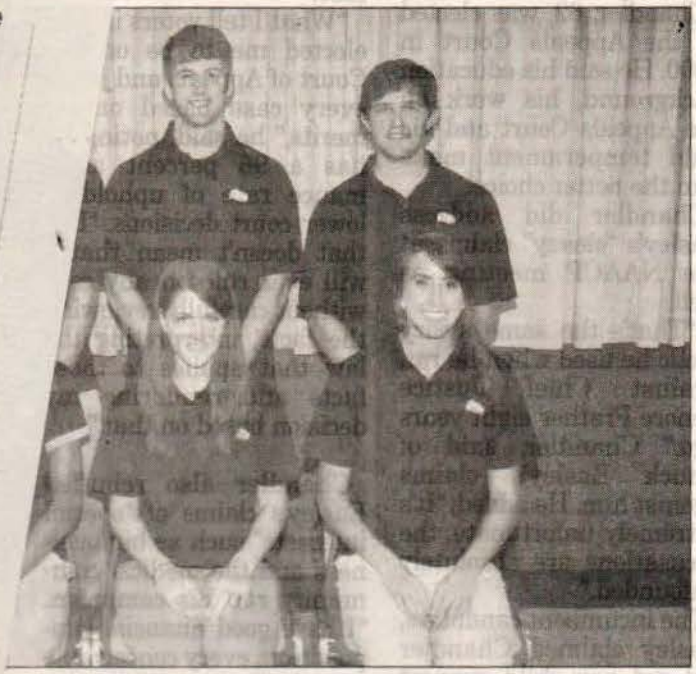

mmunity College students from Winston County are new
r Corps, a select group of students who assist in recruit-
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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 10-27-08

ECCC Warrior Corps

These East Central Community College students from Winston County are new members of the Warrior Corps, a select group of students who assist in recruiting and special events on the Decatur campus. Joining the prestigious organization and their respective high schools are (seated from left) Michaela Lee, Anna Fulton and Kimberly Blackwell, all of Nanih Waiya; and (standing from left) Jacob Drury, Grace Christian; Drew Smith, Louisville; and Cody Ming, Winston Academy. Student Services personnel Lanette Hanna and Romonica Evans serve as Warrior Corps sponsors.

APPEARED IN:

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

ECC Color Guard

Color guard member for the 2008-09 edition of the East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Marching Band include (first row, from left) Crystal Walker, a product of Neshoba Central High School; Celeste Franklin, Philadelphia; Tashia Williamson, Choctaw Central; and Brandy Gomillion and Wendy Cater, both of Sebastopol; (second row, from left) Miata Evans, Newton; Candi Wade, Raleigh; Brittany Snow and Rachel Day, both of Neshoba Central;' Erin Goldman and Deandra Graham, both of Philadelphia; and Rachel Oatman and Monica McMahan, both of West Lauderdale; (third row, from left) Ashley Broach, Newton County; Beverly Stokes, Neshoba Central; Candi Willis, Union; Meagan Vaughn, Choctaw Central; Brittany Fedrick, Sebastopol; Megan Sharp, Neshoba Central; Reaghan Mayes, Sebastopol; and Allison Rogers, Ashton Lowrey and Lindsey Donald, all of Louisville; and (fourth row, from left) Shaterica Curry, Kimberly Ammerson and Kim Ammerson, both of Newton County; Brooke Caraway, Newton; Allison Walker, Louisville; Nicole Gray, Forest; and Lee Hunt, Louisville. Thomas W. Carson serves as director of bands and Jared Brownlee is assistant director.

ECCC STSA

East Central Community College in Decatur recently announced East Central Surgical Technology Students Association members for 2008-09. The organization consists of surgical technology students, who are a member of the national organization, Association of Surgical Technologists. The organization is designed to help these students acquire knowledge and skills essential for preparing them for a surgical technology career. Members include: (front row, from left) Kristy Boswell of Union; Candace Griffin of Philadelphia; Kristian Evans of Hickory; Missy Williamson of Louisville; and Deanna Morris of Carthage; (middle row, from left) Laci Bridges of Lawrence; Sheree Portis of Meridian; Monique Robinson of Newton; Shaquita Brown of Meridian; Jennileen Jackson of Philadelphia; and Jessica Young of Meridian; (back row, from left) Marty Boatner of Louisville; Jessica LaPeze of Union; Jason Yarbrough of Carthage; Synica Bester of Philadelphia; April Tillman of Union; Jeana Richardson of Philadelphia; and Jacqueline Hunt of Ackerman. For more information about ECSTSA, contact sponsors Kristie Pilgrim or LeAnn Shirley, respectively, at 601-635-6343, 601-635-6344 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 343 or 344.

WEEK OF 10-27-08

ECCC Top 11 Beauties...These young ladies were recently named Top 11 Beauties at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (from left) Kayla Hampton of Louisville, Krystle Wolverton of Union, Dekota Anthony and Amber Madison, both of Philadelphia; Adrienne Bird and Bailey Brown, both of Morton; Dentra Darden of Louisville, Anna Johnson of Union, Joy Hayes of Decatur, Candi Vance of Union and Anna Fulton of Louisville. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES ✓

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 10-27-08

ECCC Players To Present 'Who Killed Elvis?' ...The East Central Community College Players' will present Craig Sodaro's "Who Killed Elvis?" at 7 p.m. November 4, 6-8, 2008. The annual dinner theater will be held in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria on the Decatur campus. Tickets are available for $12 each by calling the College switchboard at 601-635-2111 or toll free 1-877-462-3222. There will also be matinee performances at 9 a.m. on November 3-4 for $5. The murder mystery/comedy is directed by Joan Grimes, who also serves as the College's Director of Tech Prep Education. Cast and crew members and their respective hometowns include (front row, from left) Briana Edison, Collins; Nicole Franklin, Philadelphia; Hannah Watkins, Sebastopol; Miranda Edwards, Byram; Laura Alexander, Little Rock; Amanda Hampton, Louisville; Kristina Harrison, Union; Brittany Smith, Walnut Grove; and Leslie Graham, Forest; (second row, from left) Zach Gibbs, Forest; Tiffany Spence, Decatur; Emilee Lanier, Little Rock; Casey Rowzee, Newton; Courtney Gammill, Lake; Anna Laurie Ezell, Union; Holly Webb and Rachel Ramirez, both of Forest; Christina Gibbs, Lake; Erin Tramill, Newton; Kylie Rigdon, Union; and Josh Underwood, Sebastopol; and (back row, from left) Cody Walters, Forest; Chris Smith, Union; McClain Mullins, Tupelo; Logan McDonald, Conehatta; J'Markus Dubose and Logan Copeland, both of Union; Colton Amis, Decatur; Drew Harrison, Little Rock; Michael Sanford, Carthage; Brandon Hughes, Union; Aaron Morrison, Newton; Aaron Mann, Carthage; and Lance Goodin, Louisville. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 10-22-08

ECCC students Shawn Cooper and Catie Slay share a laugh Thursday night during the kickoff banquet for Relay for Life. The banquet, held at the Depot in Newton, marks the kickoff for the annual benefit that raises money for cancer research. Relay for Life will be held at ECCC on Saturday May 2, 2009, starting at 10:00 a.m. and running for the next 18 hours. This year promises a holiday theme.

APPEARED IN:

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MERIDIAN STAR _____

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WEEK OF 11-3-08

Winston Countians at ECCC

Winston County Students In ECCC Band

East Central Community College students from Winston County who are members of the 2008-09 East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Marching Band include (first row, from left) Lindsey Donald, Louisville; Jarlene Robinson, Noxapater and Denita Darden, both of Noxapater; Allison Lowry and Tiffany Thomas, both of Winston Academy; Anna Fulton and Lauren Luke, both of Nanih Waiya; and Ashton Lowrey and Alison Walker, both of Louisville; (second row, from left) Lee Hunt, Conashya Headd, Demetria Coleman, Jerica Taylor and Brandi Tollette, all of Louisville; Amanda Hampton, Nanih Waiya; and Kevin Haynes and Allison Rogers, both of Louisville; and (third row, from left) Paul Edwards, Louisville; Neil Smith, Dimario Parks, Doug Janz, Nathan Calvert and J. D. McNeil, all of Louisville. Thomas W. Carson serves as director of bands and Jared Brownlee is assistant director. (EC Photo)

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 11-3-08

ECCC PBL members

These East Central Community College students serve as 2008-09 officers of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Beta Lambda, an organization for business students. Seated from left are Josh Dickerson of Union, president; Jonathan Federick of Hickory, vice president; and Aaron Morrison of Newton, reporter. Standing from left are Kimberly Goodin of Newton, historian; Kim Amerson of Decatur, secretary; and Laura Pearson of Louisville, parliamentarian. Phi Beta Lambda is the premier business association preparing students for careers in business and success in life. Its purpose is to foster a better relationship between one another and to cultivate a better understanding of business principles in general.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 11-3-08

SUBMITTED PHOTO

ECCC CONCERT CHOIR

The East Central Community College Concert Choir will present their fall concert Thursday in the Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium, during the annual Fine Arts Festival, which will also showcase works by the College's art department. There is no charge for admission and the public is invited to attend. Choir members and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) accompanist and music keyboard instructor Natalie Emmons; Lacey Gilmore, Newton County; Rachel Ramirez, Forest; Lane Fulton, Newton County; Chris Clark, Morton; Kyle Barrett, Newton County; Matt Naylor, West Lauderdale; Corbin Jenkins, Carthage; Elise Gibbs, Newton County; Stacy Henderson, Raleigh; and director and vocal music instructor Vicki Blaylock; (second row, from left) Nikki Sheely, Whitley Fisher and Tiffany Spence, all of Newton County; Drew Johnston and Aaron Mann, both of Carthage; Ronnie White, Forest; Nicole Dunavant, Newton County; and Carmen Hardy, Meridian; (third row, from left) Naomi Massey, Sebastopol; Emily Pace, Newton County; Brandi Ricks, Sebastopol; Graylon Foster, Philadelphia; Brandon Hughes, Newton County; McClain Mullins and Jared Mulllins, both of Faith Christian School; Emilee Lanier, Newton County; Courtney James, Magee; and Courtney Gammill, Lake; (fourth row, from left) Casey Rozee, Newton County Academy; Brooke Culpepper, Scott Central; Ashley Dumas, Meghan Moulds, Drew Harrison, Cameron Weaver, Brian Felton and Colton Amis, all of Newton County; Ayla Smith, Mississippi School for the Arts; Jessica Cherry, Carthage; and Erica Ervin, Sebastopol; and (back row, from left) Anna Laurie Ezell and Brittany Bobo, Union; Tanya Hamilton, Neshoba Central; Melanie Stroud, Lake; D.J. Townsend, Carthage; Jordan Gunn, Lake; Cody Straight and Jarod Armstrong, both of Newton County; J'Markus Dubose, Union; and Jonathan Crabtree, Warren Central.

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF 11-3-08

ECCC Concert Choir to perform Thursday

special to The Star

DECATUR – The East Central Community College Concert Choir will present their fall concert at 7 pm. Thursday in the Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium, during the annual Fine Arts Festival, which will also showcase works by the College's art department. There is no charge for admission and the public is invited to attend.

ECCC's concert choir is under the direction of music instructor Vicki Blaylock and is accompanied by Natalie Emmons, who also serves on the college's music faculty.

The program will include Mozart's "Ave Verum Corps," "The Silence and the Song" by Patterson, "Miserere Mei" by Lotti, "The Night Shall be Filled with Music" by Farnell, "Courage Lives" by Patterson, Clausen's "Set Me As A Seal," and "Let Everything that Hath Breath" by Ames. Also included will be Christmas favorites "He is Born," arranged by Wetzler, "I'll Be Home for Christmas" arranged by Beck, "Breath of Heaven" arranged by Larson and "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" arranged by Hayes.

Soloists for the evening will include Tiffany Spence of Newton County High School and Ronnie White of Forest High School.

Choir members include Lacey Gilmore, Lane Fulton, Kyle Barrett, Elise Gibbs, Nikki Sheely, Whitley Fisher, Nicole Dunavant, Brandon Hughes, Emily Pace, Emilee Lanier, Tiffany Spence, Ashley Dumas, Meghan Moulds, Drew Harrison, Cameron Weaver, Brian Felton, Colton Amis, Cody Straight and Jarod Armstrong, all of Newton County; Casey Rowzee, Newton County Academy; Anna Laurie Ezell, Brittany Bobo and J'Markus Dubose, all of Union; Chris Clark, Morton; Rachel Ramirez and Ronnie White, both of Forest; Erica Ervin, Naomi Massey and Brandi Ricks, all of Sebastopol; Courtney Gammill, Melanie Stroud and Jordan Gunn, all of Lake; Brooke Culpepper, Scott Central; Corbin Jenkins, Drew Johnston, Jessica Cherry, D.J. Townsend and Aaron Mann, all of Carthage; Graylon Foster, Philadelphia; Tanya Hamilton, Neshoba Central; Jonathan Crabtree, Warren Central; Matt Naylor, West Lauderdale; Carmen Hardy, Meridian; Stacy Henderson, Raleigh; Courtney James, Magee; McClain Mullins and Jared Mulllins, both of Faith Christian School; and Ayla Smith, Mississippi School for the Arts.

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WEEK OF 11-3-08

ECCC Drumline

Drumline members for the 2008-09 edition of the East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Marching Band include (kneeling from left) Jacob Phillips and Justin Weathers, both products of Philadelphia High School; Nathan Spears and Julian Greer, both of Neshoba Central; Jonathan Crabtree, Warren Central; Travis Smallwood and Anna Switzer, both of West Lauderdale; Brewer McGee, John Davis Bates and Nathan Calvert, all of Neshoba Central; Doug Janz, Louisville; and Teddy Bloodsaw, Forest; and (standing from left0 Brittany Gibbs, Lake; Emily Malone, Carthage; Cody Thrash, Walnut Grove; Javier Araujo, Morton; Dale Alberts, West Lauderdale; Kyle Barrett, Newton County; Casey Stokes, Neshoba Central; and Brandon Hughes, Newton County. Thomas W. Carson serves as director of bands and Jared Brownlee is assistant director.

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WEEK OF 11-3-08

ECCC names Warrior Corps

East Central Community College recently welcomed 40 new members of the Warrior Corps, a select group of students who assist in recruiting and special events on the Decatur campus.

Members of the organization are chosen through an interview process and are required to have a 2.0 GPA.

Scott County students selected for the Warrior Corps include Edgar Alvarez, Kristi Bell, Becky Culpepper. Jordan Gunn, Brittany Jennings and Cody Walters, all of Forest Miriah Barney, Meagha Mayes, Reaghan Nico Mayes and Lindsey Stuart, al of Sebastopol; and Baile Brown and Amber McCaugh both of Morton.

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WEEK OF 11-10-08

ECCC CENTRALETTES

Providing halftime entertainment during East Central Community College football games are the Centralettes, the dance line for the Wall 'O Sound Marching Band. Members include: front, from left, captains Tiffany Thomas of Winston Academy and Lacy McMurry of Edinburg; second row, from left, Brooke Culpepper, Scott Central; Nicole Dunavant, Newton County; Anna Johnson and Lana Adkins, both of Union; Becky Culpepper, Scott Central; Candi Vance, Newton County; and Krystle Wolverton, Union; third row, from left, Lauren Luke, Nanih Waiya; Erica Dowell, Edinburg; Jessica Galloway, Union; Amber Madison, Neshoba Central; Bailey Brown, East Rankin Academy; and Jacqlene Robinson, Noxapater; and fourth row, from left, Denetra Darden, Nanih Waiya; Alison Lowery, Winston Academy; Savanna Smith, Newton County; Anna Fulton, Nanih Waiya; Hannah Watkins, Sebastopol; and Brooke Robinson, Quitman. Nichol Hillman serves as coordinator/choreographer.

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WEEK OF 11-10-08

Collegians To Present Campus Concert Nov. 17...The Collegians, East Central Community College's Rock-N-Roll Band, will present their fall campus concert at 8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 17, in Huff Auditorium. The popular group will perform hits by Three Doors Down, Third Day, Jessica Simpson, Pink and many others. Special guests will be the "One Night Only Band," comprised of former Collegians and organized by alumnus Grant Morris. Admission is free and the public is invited to attend. Collegian members and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) Dustin Gibbs, Drew Harrison, Nathan Spears, Brandon Hughes, Lana Adkins, Tiffany Spence, Allison Rogers, and Mikail Serio, (second row, from left) Graylon Foster, Ruby McCurdy, Chris Smith, and Christina Gibbs, and (back row, from left) Logan McDonald, Cody Thrash, Sebastopol; Kristina Harrison, Matt Moore, John David Bates, Emily Malone, Josh Talbert, Lacey Gilmore and Anthony Williams, Chris Corley, and Clay Winstead, ECCC Director of Bands Thomas W. Carson serves as director and also plays guitar. (EC Photo)

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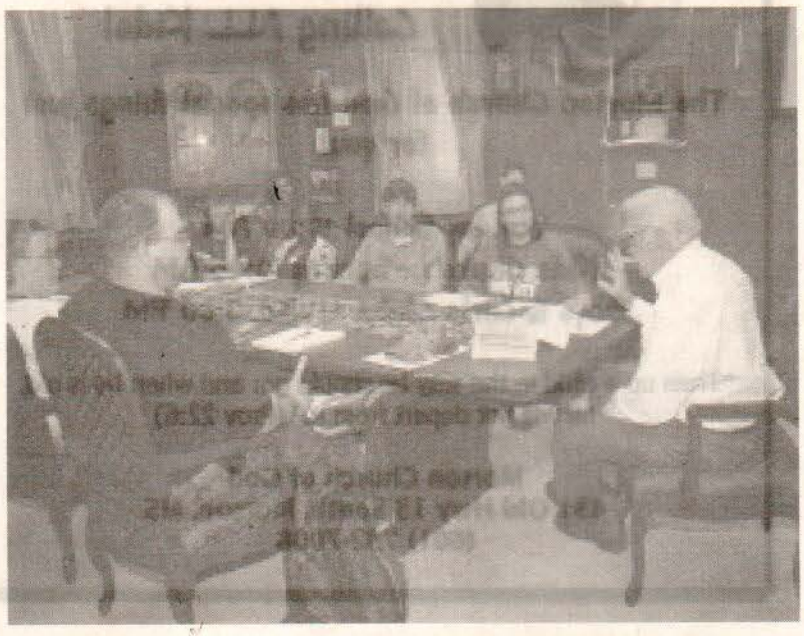
WEEK OF 11-10-05



Vickers Speaks to ECCC Book Club

Retired East Central Community College Instructor Ovid Vickers recently spoke to the ECCC Book Club at Burton Library on the Decatur campus. During the presentation, Vickers discussed the work of F. Scott Fitzgerald with the club. The club will host Iraqi-war prisoner Thomas Hamil speaking about his book, "Escape in Iraq: The Thomas Hamil Story," during their meeting on Tues., Nov. 11. For more information about the ECCC Book Club, contact club advisor Gloria Johnson at 601-635-6219 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 219. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 1-10-08

Bird crowned 2008 East Central Community College Most Beautiful

Adrienne Bird is the 19 year old daughter of Jennifer Thompson of Morton and Mark Bird of Camden, Arkansas. An honor graduate of East Rankin Academy, she served on the student council, was a homecoming maid and was selected Miss ERA. In addition, she was a member of the Lady Patriots basketball team and a varsity cheerleader. At East Central, she is a member of Phi Theta Kappa honor society, Sigma Sigma Mu Tau and Warrior Corps. She served as a class officer her freshman year.

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WEEK OF 11-17-08

ECCC Surgical Technology Students Association...East Central Community College in Decatur recently announced East Central Surgical Technology Students Association members for 2008-09. The organization consists of surgical technology students, who are a member of the national organization, Association of Surgical Technologists. The organization is designed to help these students acquire knowledge and skills essential for preparing them for a surgical technology career. Members include: (front row, from left) Kristy Boswell of Union; Candace Griffin of Philadelphia; Kristian Evans of Hickory; Missy Williamson of Louisville; and Deanna Morris of Carthage; (middle row, from left) Laci Bridges of Lawrence; Sheree Portis of Meridian; Monique Robinson of Newton; Shaquita Brown of Meridian; Jennileen Jackson of Philadelphia; and Jessica Young of Meridian; (back row, from left) Marty Boatner of Louisville; Jessica LaPeze of Union; Jason Yarbrough of Carthage; Synica Bester of Philadelphia; April Tillman of Union; Jeana Richardson of Philadelphia; and Jacqueline Hunt of Ackerman. For more information about ECSTSA, contact sponsors Kristie Pilgrim or LeAnn Shirley, respectively, at 601-635-6343, 601-635-6344 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 343 or 344. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 11-17-08

ECCC Gospel Choir plans Nov. 19 concert

East Central Community College's Gospel Choir will present its annual fall concert Wednesday, Nov. 19, on the Decatur campus.

The performance begins at 7 p.m. in the Vickers Fine Arts Center auditorium.

Elder James Young of Philadelphia will serve as guest speaker.

The public is invited to attend and there is no charge for admission. Brenda K. Johnson serves as Gospel Choir sponsor.

For more information call 601.635.2111 or call toll free, 1.877.462.3222, ext. 215.

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WEEK OF 11-17-08

Three arrests made on EC campus

By Cheryl Owens

The Newton Record

Three East Central Community college students were arrested over the weekend for having marijuana on campus and being in possession of a firearm on campus.

Arrested were Marcus Darrell Warnsley age 21, Timothy Dewayne Wright, 24 and Jacoby Jewon Toole age 19. All three were charged with possession of marijuana and Warnsley was also charged with possession of a firearm.

"We received a call that some people were possibly selling marijuana on the East Central Campus parking lot," Decatur Chief of Police Joedy Pennington said. "When we arrived and searched the car we found an ounce of marijuana in the car along with an automatic pistol on the seat of the vehicle that belonged to Warnsley."

All three are being held in the Newton County Jail.

Another unrelated incident took place on the ECCC campus about 10:45 p.m. Sunday night when a student was allegedly robbed at gunpoint. Jeremy Antrail Holifield, 19 and Wesley Gerrard Ricks, 18, stole a cell phone from a student and then ran off, according to Pennington.

"We had them in custody around 12:30 a.m." Pennington said. "Holifield is being charged with armed rob-

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Lana Adkins leads the Collegians through a tune Monday night at ECCC. The college's rock group, led by Tom Carson, played a spirited set of popular songs from Kid Rock, Eminem, Three Doors Down and others. The show finished with the group donning tie-dye apparel and running through a medley of Jimi Hendrix hits, wrapping up with Bob Seger's "Old Time Rock 'n' Roll".

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ECCC mourns death of two students; Another student injured, remains in hospital

The ambiance is solemn on the campus of East Central Community College in Decatur in reaction to the recent tragic deaths of two ECCC students, Shareef Dixon and Bradley "B.J." McElroy Jr. Both young men were freshmen career-technology students training for their future careers.

"It is always tragic when lives are lost to accidents and to have two students lost in separate accidents on back-to-back weekends is doubly tragic," Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, president of ECCC said. "We offer our condolences to the families and pray that they find the strength to deal with the sadness and loss of a loved one."

The first of the two tragic deaths of ECCC students occurred on Oct. 31. Dixon, 18, an electrical technology student of Lena, was traveling in a 1995 Crown Victoria west on U.S. Highway 80 passing through the Kalem community between Morton and Forest at approximately 11 p.m. when his vehicle collided head-on with a vehicle traveling east on U.S. 80 when his life came to a tragic end. Dixon was on his way to pick up his cousin and younger brother at the Morton High School field house after the team returned from their game at Decatur with Newton County.

ECCC electrical technology instructor John Everett described Dixon as "a very likable young man."

"Shareef was a good student and was always willing to help," Everett said. "He did good work and was good to volunteer and work with others."

Everett said his class is continuing to cope with the loss of their classmate. He said the care for Dixon was evident the first day of class following Dixon's death.

"I always have a sign-in sheet and one of his classmates wrote, 'R.I.P. we will always love you,' on the sheet and signed Shareef's name," Everett said.

Everett said Dixon's younger brother, a ninth-grader at Morton High School, has expressed plans of attending ECCC following high school graduation.

"Shareef's younger brother is planning to come through my program and carry on his brother's legacy," Everett said he was told by Dixon's mother.

The accident also claimed the lives of [illegible]id Randall, 22, of Morton and two of his children, Chriscedez, 2, and Mercades, 4, and his friend, David Allen, 21, also of Morton. Dixon's funeral was held at 1 p.m. on Nov. 6 at Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Lena.

Dixon was a 2008 graduate of Morton High School. He is the son of Mavis Dixon and Dennis Dixon of Lena.

An early Sunday morning, Nov. 9, accident claimed the life of the second ECCC student, McElroy, 19, a welding and cutting program student from Noxapater, who died instantly, when a Brandon police cruiser, en route to a call, crashed into his vehicle in Brandon.

ECCC welding instructor, Gerald Jordan, said McElroy's classmates are dealing with the grief of their friend as best they can.

Jordan said McElroy was a talented welding student and his prior two years of training at Winston–Louisville Career and Technology Center was apparent in his work.

"He was exceptionally well-behaved and just a good student," Jordan said. "He did his class work and anything we asked of him."

Shane McDaniel, McElroy's high school metal trades instructor said McElroy was a great young man who had a lot of things going for him.

"It is such a tragedy that his life was taken from him at such a young age," McDaniel said. "B.J. left his legacy on life; he lived it to the fullest. He was a respectful young man and I am proud to have called him one of my students."

Authorities said the crash occurred on U.S. 80 at the westbound I-20 exit ramp in Brandon. The crash hospitalized another ECCC student, Ciera Hines, 18, of Morton, who was a passenger in McElroy's vehicle, and a Brandon police officer. Hines remains hospitalized in stable condition.

Funeral services for McElroy were held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 11, at Jordan Funeral Home in Kosciusko with burial in the Friendship Cemetery.

He was a 2008 graduate of Noxapater High School in 2008. He is the son of Bradley Alton McElroy Sr. of Louisville and Deneace Hobbs Reel of Noxapater.

The Scott County Times and The Clarion-Ledger contributed to this report.

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WEEK OF 11-17-08

Rebel wins free tuition with one successful kick at game

Cushman Makes '$700 Kick' at ECCC

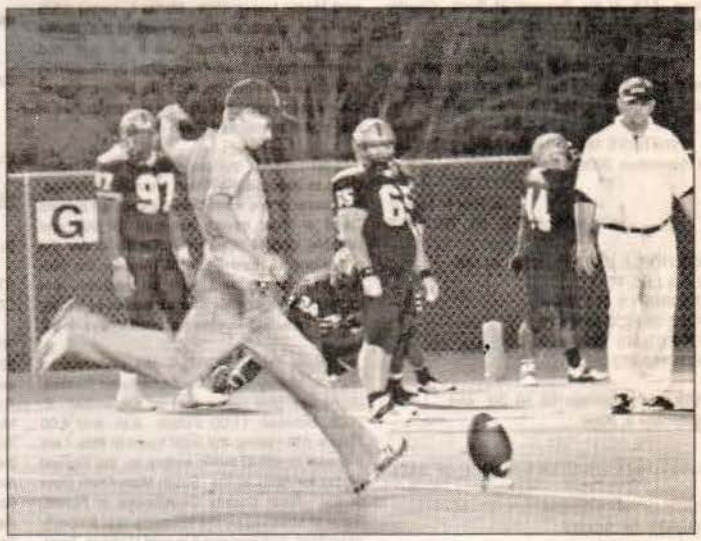
Special to the Times

DECATUR With East Central Community College offensive coordinator Brian Anderson and several Warriors looking on, Scott Central High School senior Dustin Cushman successfully connects on a 20-yard field goal for free tuition during "Be Our Guest" night held recently on the Decatur campus.

Cushman, a member of the Scott Central football team and a former kicker, made the "$700 kick" during halftime activities of East Central's 35-28 overtime win over Copiah-Lincoln Community College Oct. 16 at Bailey Stadium.

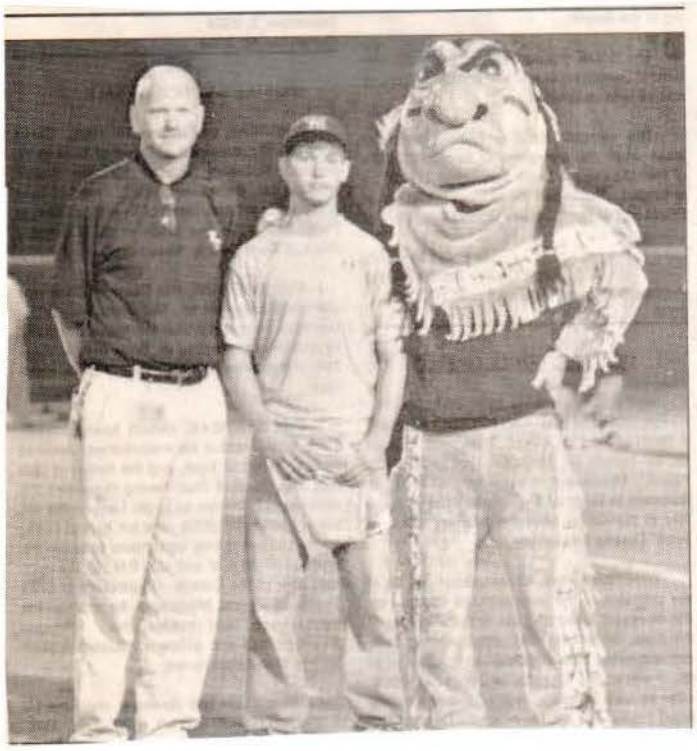
His name was drawn for the field goal attempt from the approximately 160 area high school seniors who attended the annual event.

Cushman is one of the leading players for the Rebels football team vying for a South State title berth this week.



ECCC PHOTOS

Dustin Cushman is shown at right following his clutch performance with Joe Killens (left), vice president for student services, and Warrior Chief mascot Daniel Cheatham of Philadelphia. Cushman will receive free tuition valued at $700 for the 2009 fall semester, should he attend the College.



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WEEK OF 11-24-08

Theta Chi members **Rebecca Rogers** of Chunky, state secretary, **Josh Dickerson** of Union, state parliamentarian, and adviser **Christy Ferguson**, executive board member, attended the meet. Ferguson, who serves as a Theta Chi adviser and teaches business technology courses, said attending the national meeting provided the officers an opportunity to network, learn and interact with other future business leaders.

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WEEK OF 11-24-08

SCOTT STUDENTS JOINING ECCC WARRIOR CORPS

These East Central Community College students from the Scott County area are new members of the Warrior Corps, a select group of students who assist in recruiting and special events on the Decatur campus. Joining the prestigious organization and their respective high schools are (seated from left) Kristi Bell, Scott Central; Brandi Gray, Lake; Meaghan Mayes and Reaghan Mayes, both of Sebastopol; Becky Culpepper, Scott Central; and Amber McCaughn, Pisgah; and (standing from left) Edgar Alvarez and Cody Walters, both of Forest; Jordan Gunn, Lake; Crystal Massey, East Rankin Academy; Miriah Barney and Lindsey Stuart, both of Sebastopol; Bailey Brown, East Rankin Academy; and Brittany Jennings, Scott Central. Student Services personnel Lanette Hanna and Romonica Evans serve as Warrior Corps sponsors.(EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 11-24-08

ECCC student nets tuition prize

DECATUR — Central Community College freshman Veronica Smith of Forest was congratulated by Joe Killens, vice president for student services, after the freshman liberal arts major drilled a three-point shot for free tuition during the annual Haunted House of Hoops held Oct. 29 on the Decatur campus. Killens dressed for the Halloween occasion as "Uncle Fester" from "The Munsters" and Smith donned a referee's uniform. Smith will receive free tuition — valued at $700 — for the spring 2009 semester for making the shot. The event is held to showcase the college's basketball teams.

Smith

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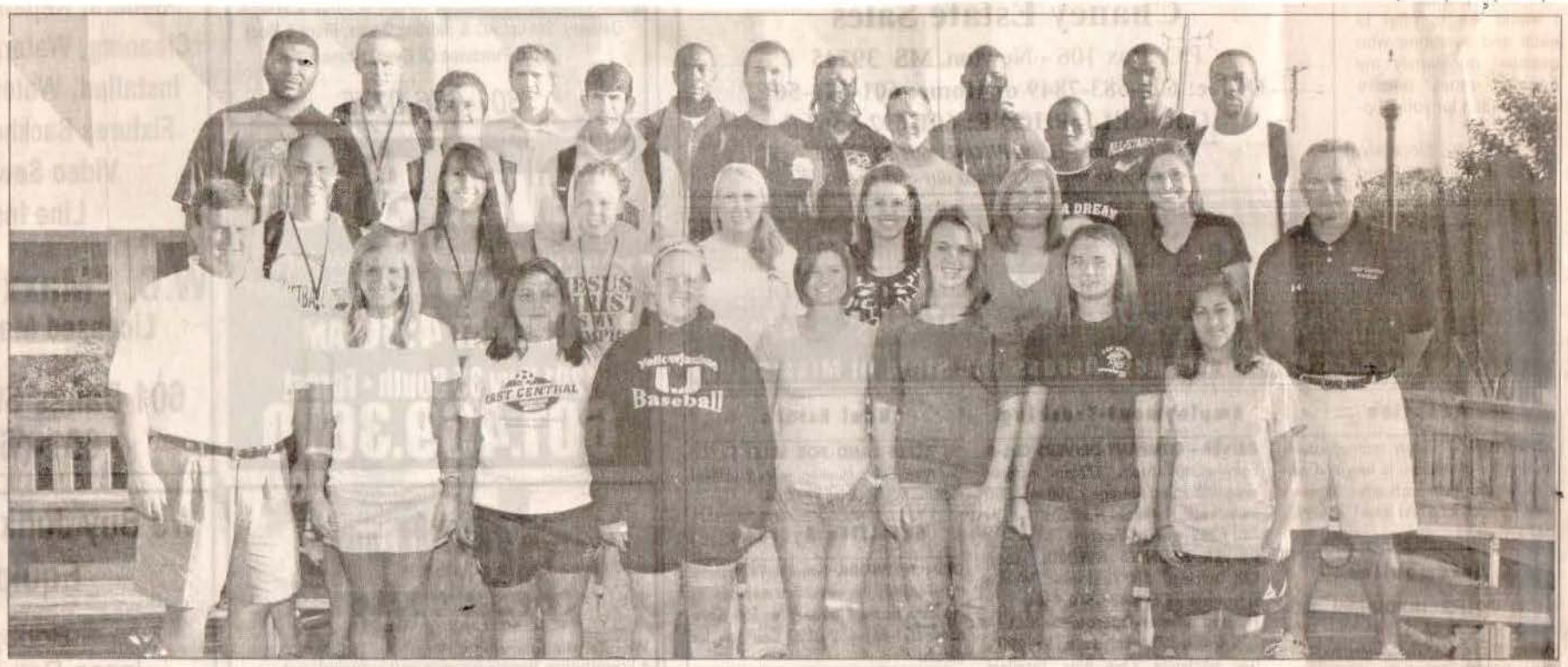

ECCC PHOTO

ECCC FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES

East Central Community College in Decatur recently announced Fellowship of Christian Athletes members for 2008-09. The organization consists of a group of athletes, coaches and students who worship together weekly and take part in a national Christian organization for athletes and coaches. The group holds student-led worship "huddles" each week. Members include: (front row, from left) FCA sponsor Coach Scott Hill of Decatur; Emily Thrash of Sebastopol; Catalina Tarazona of Florence; Paige Holsen of Union; Sierra Farlow of Philadelphia; Shana Easley of Florence and Marcia Guerreiro of Richland; (second row, from left) Kat Taylor of Carthage; Kimberly Blackwell of Nanih Waiya; Genny Freeman of Laurel; Allison Phillips and Emily Wooten, both of Carthage; Erin Breland and Hannah Lee, both of Philadelphia and Coach Steve Cheatham of Decatur; (third row, from left) Coach Maurice Bowie of Decatur; Tyler McNeil and Derek Crenshaw, both of Philadelphia; Jarred Fleming of Louisville; Dustin Alley of McDonough, Ga.; Kendrick D. May of Northport, Ala.; Bruce Williams of Ridgeland; (back row, from left) Drew Wilson of Louisville; Timothy Maloney of Meridian; Clint Coleman of Louisville; Lamar Truman of Meridian; Randy Carter of Quitman and Jeremy Dillon of Hattiesburg. For more information on ECCC FCA, contact Coach Scott Hill at 601-635-6301 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 301.

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WEEK OF 12-1-08

East Central Environmental Club...

East Central Environmental Club members for 2008-09 have been announced for East Central Community College in Decatur. The purpose of the organization is to promote environmental awareness among its members and the community, to promote and encourage recycling and to become an active part of the environmental network and the community. Members include: (front row, from left) Shardae Foley; Tanika Robinson and Gerlisa Rodriguez; Cody Strait; Candi Wade; and Candie Willis; (second row, from left) Sandy Penn; Brandi Tollett; Leanne White, Amelia Burnside and Amanda Griffith, Monika McMahan and Shana Easley; (third row, from left) Joe Johnson, adviser; Sherry Weeks; Tyler Watkins and Caiti Slay, Samantha Kinard; Kristina James; Cody Cotton; (back row, from left) Sharon LeJeune, adviser; Curt Skipper, adviser; Lance Goodin; Brad Reynolds , Daniel Alexander and J'Markus Dubose, and Matthew Moore. For more information about ECEC, contact advisor Joe Johnson at 601-635-6221 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 221. (EC Photo)

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WEEK OF 12-1-08

ECCC Beauties and Beaus

Adrienne Bird (fifth from left) of Morton and Randall Hudson (sixth from left) of Forest were recently selected Most Beautiful and Most Handsome, respectively, at East Central Community College in Decatur. Also pictured are beauties and beaus (from left) Lance Goodin of Louisville, Anna Johnson of Union, Cody Ming of Louisville, Amber Madison of Philadelphia, Bailey Brown of Morton, Clint Sloan and Denetra Dardin, both of Louisville and Van Williams of Lawrence.

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WEEK OF December 1, 2008

Sports Briefs

ECCC's Dale earns national honors

from school reports

East Central Community College sophomore Mystee Dale was selected NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball Player of the Week for the week of Nov. 25.

Dale, a 5-8 guard and former Choctaw Central standout, scored 39 points to go along with 12 rebounds and 10 assists in the Lady Warriors' 97-85 thumping of then-No. 15 Northeast Mississippi Community College on Nov. 20, which followed her 27-point performance in East Central's 56-45 upset of then-No. 20 East Mississippi Community College on Nov. 17.

Dale

In the win over Northeast, Dale was also credited with four steals and made 7-of-8 3-point shots. She had six rebounds, five assists and two steals against the Lady Lions.

Dale also shot 100 percent from the free throw line during the week as well as posting a 74 percent success rate on field goals.

ECCC head coach Bill Smith said Dale is obviously deserving of the national recognition.

"This is a great honor for Mystee and East Central to be named the national player of the week," said the fourth-year head coach. "Mystee had a tremendous week for us in leading EC to two big wins over two top 25-ranked teams."

The Lady Warriors — the defending Region 23 champions — will take a 6-3 mark into Thursday's rematch with Northeast.

Women's action begins at 6 p.m. followed by the men's contest at 8 p.m. in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

The Warriors (4-5) fell 74-71 in their earlier matchup with the Tigers.

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ECCC PHOTO

ACCENTS PRESENTS FALL CONCERT

The East Central Community College Accents show choir presented its fall concert last week. The popular group presented such hits as I Could Have Danced All Night from My Fair Lady, Without Love from Hairspray, You Are the Music in Me from High School Musical, Will It Go Round in Circles, made popular by Billy Preston and Home, by Chris Daughtry. Accents members and their respective high schools include (front row, from left) Casey Rowzee, Newton County Academy; Holly Webb, Forest; Erica Ervin, Sebastopol; Tiffany Spence and Emilee Lanier, both of Newton County; and Carmen Hardy, Meridian; and (back row, from left) Drew Harrison, Lane Fulton, Cody Strait, Brandon Hughes, all of Newton County; Aaron Mann, Carthage; and Kyle Barrett, Newton County. Vicki Blaylock serves as director, not pictured.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

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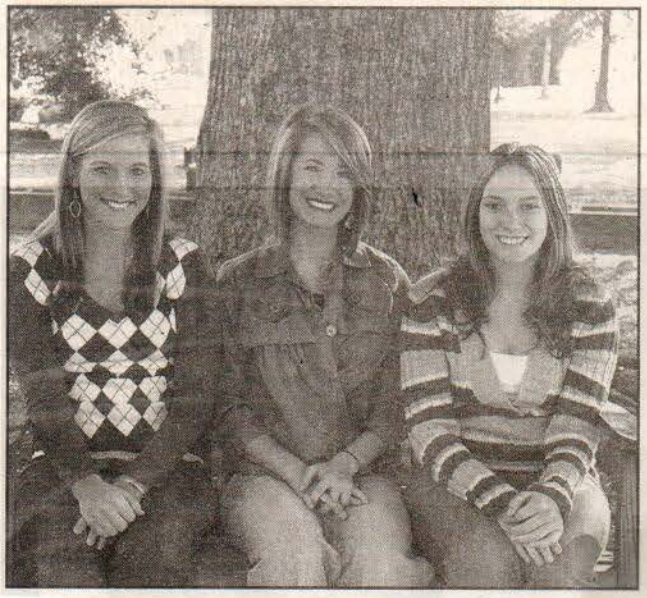
CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 12-15-08



East Central Student Body Association Officers

Student Body Association Officers for 2008-09 have been announced for East Central Community College in Decatur. Officers include: Emily Thrash, president of Sebastopol; Anna Laurie Ezelle of Union, vice president; and Kylie Rigdon of Union, treasurer. Kasey Crutcher of Carthage, secretary for the association, was not pictured. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 12-15-08

ECCC Gospel Choir...Above are members of the East Central Community College Gospel Choir, shown prior to their fall concert on the Decatur campus. First row, from left, are Briana Edison, Rachel Day, Melanie Johnson; sponsor Brenda K. Johnson; Kelli Nixon, Kellie Sullivan, Kayla Nixon, Santana Wilson, and Kamisha Patrick; (second row, from left) Dekia Crossley, Jessica Cager, Lakeisha Robinson, Van-Randolph Williams, Darius Walker, Keyshawn Harrison, Trynette McNeal, Miata Evans, Asia Tingle, and Patricia Harvey, and (back row, from left) Dana Savell, Gerlisa Rodriguez, Sharday Hornsby, Reggie Davis; Tabius Craft, Andrew Haynes, Jasmine Earby, Olivia Shaw, Paulding; and Janna Brown. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF 12-15-08

Hamil speaks to ECCC student book club about experiences in captivity

Club includes local natives

Special to the Times

DECATUR—Thomas Hamil, who was captured by Iraqi militants during the ambush of a civilian convoy in Iraq in 2004, visited East Central Community College in Decatur as a guest of the ECCC Book Club on Veterans Day.

The 48-year-old Macon resident talked with students about his book, *Escape in Iraq*.

Hamil originally went to Iraq to earn more money and serve his country as best he could after being denied entry into the military for medical reasons. But his story began six months after arriving to work as a civilian truck driver.

A news crew taped his kidnapping. After 23 days in captivity, despite dealing with a gunshot wound, he was able to escape.

His book relays the chronologically events surrounding his capture and escape.

Pictured are (from left) Hamil and East Central sophomores, Brandi Ricks of Forest, who sang the national anthem for the ceremony, and Brittany Smith of Sebastopol, president of the book club.

ECCC PHOTO

From left: Thomas Hamil, Brandi Ricks and Brittany Smith.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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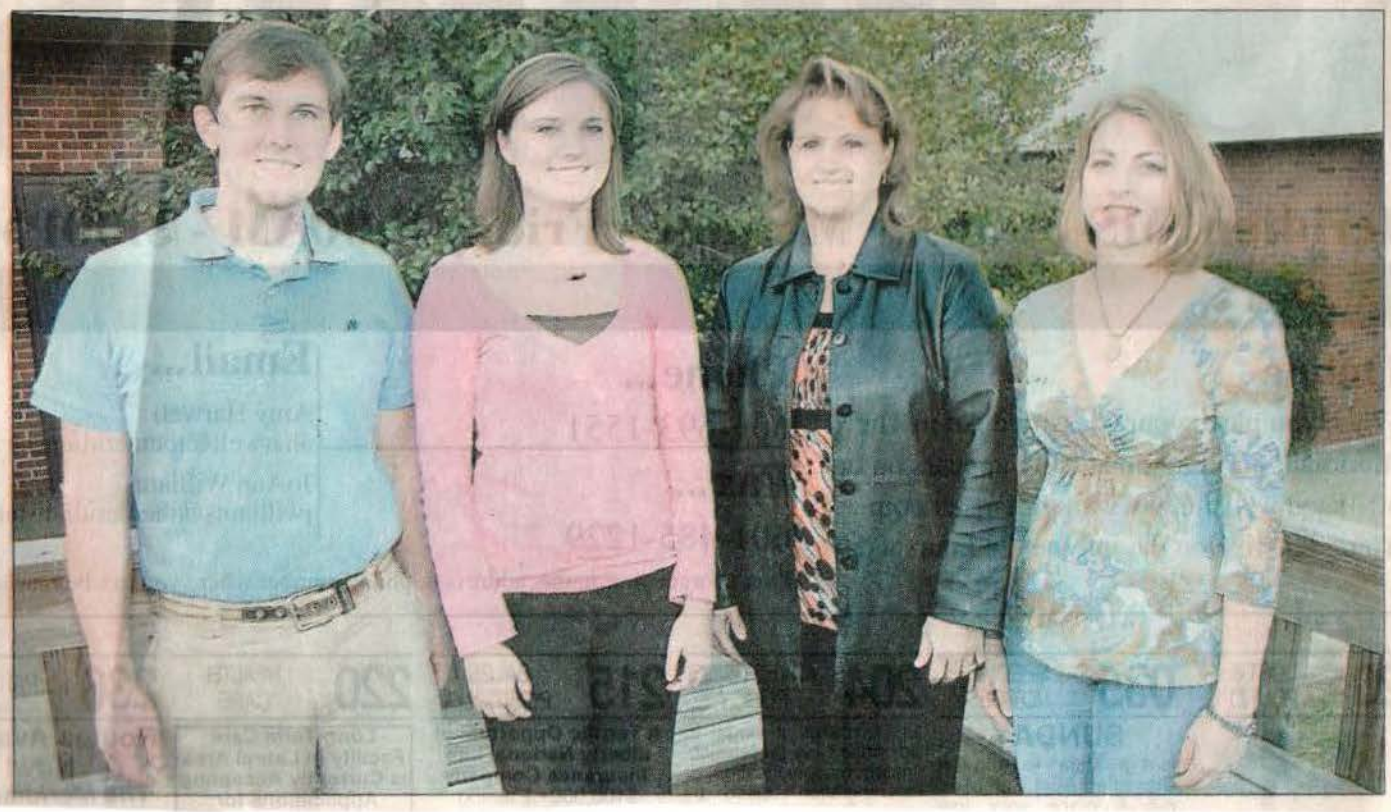
EAST CENTRAL NURSING PROGRAM OFFICERS, MEMBERS



ASNEC OFFICERS

ASNEC officers for 2008-09 have been announced for East Central Community College. ASNEC is an organization for students enrolled in the Associate Degree Nursing Program. It is designed to promote and encourage participation in community affairs and activities towards improved healthcare and related social issues. Officers include: Doug Kelley of Sebastopol, president and second-year delegate; Brittni Cazier of Thomastown, vice president; Terry Lightheart of Canton, first-year delegate; and Tiffanie Credille of Union, secretary and second-year delegate. For more information about ECCC ASNEC, contact Christy Savell at (601) 635-6317, call toll free, (877) 462-3222 ext. 317.

Submitted photos

22-08

SECOND-YEAR MEMBERS

ASNEC second-year members for 2008-09 have been announced for East Central Community College and include: front row, from left, Stewart Marshall of Meridian, Kim Williams of Forest, April Hogue of Carthage, Tiffanie Credille of Union, secretary and second-year delegate; Tiffany Dora of Louisville, Kelvin Knowles of Louisville, Brandi Goodwin of Meridian, Macqualine Triplett of Newton, Kim Traxler of Morton, and Shannon Harrison of Union; second row, from left, Tiffany Quick of Philadelphia, Mildred Young of Jackson, Shana Harrison of Sebastopol, Kristy Holmes of Louisville, Jennifer Harris of Newton, Jana Hunt of Weir, Shelley Darby of Philadelphia, treasurer, Sandra Colyer of Morton, Keysa Graham of Heidelberg and Corey Shoemaker of Morton; third row, from left, Doug Kelley of Sebastopol, president and second-year delegate, Michelle Galloway of Union, Christy Ezell of Decatur, Christy Gressett of Chunky, Kristi Stapp of Louisville, Jessica Dean of Decatur, Tori Williams of Sebastopol, Rebecca Wilbanks of Carthage, Kemyatta Qualls of Forest, Barbara Pitts of Carthage, Cindy Payne of Philadelphia and Erin Miller of Louisville; and back row, from left, Scott Hayman of Raleigh, Steven McKenzie of Smithdale, Brad McKinley of Forest, Kim Burton of Union, Kim Crockett of Brandon, Kay Boswell of Noxapater, Daniel Pickett of Decatur, Tiffany Henson of Carthage, Rebecca Brown of Sebastopol, secretary, Cynthia Ledlow of Union, Alisha Hitt of Little Rock, Dawn Gibson of Hickory, Holly Tullos of Newton, Lance Wooten of Forest, and Ashley Castillo of Newton.

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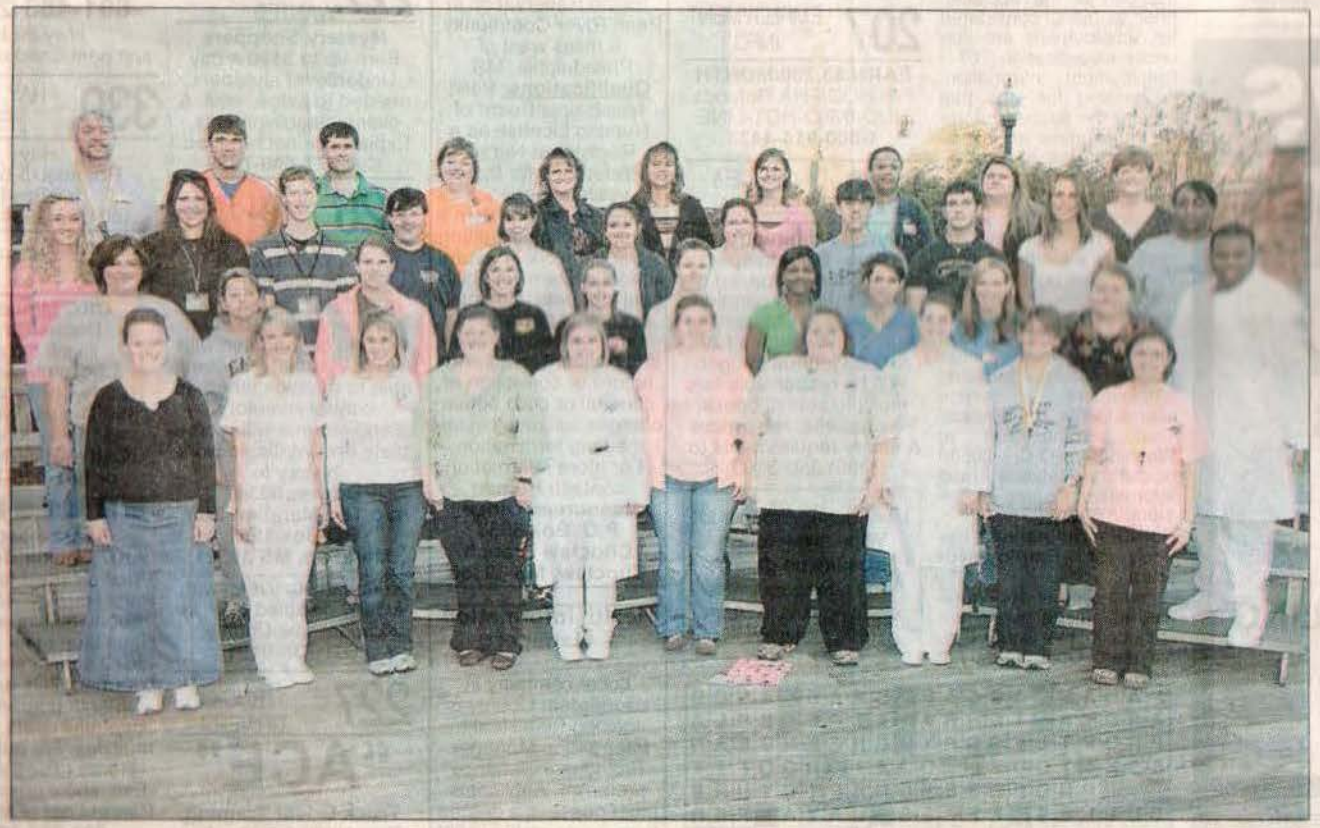

FIRST-YEAR MEMBERS

ASNEC first-year members for 2008-09 have been announced for East Central Community College and include: front row, from left, Brittany Harrison of Lena, Brandi Chambers of Forest, Holley Lindsay of Carthage, Betsy Powell of Philadelphia, Hailey Walker of Newton, Jessica Leach of Conehatta, Angela Gray and Erica Jenkins, both of Philadelphia, Lesley Porter and Betty Tucker, both of Morton; second row, from left, Tanya Sistrunk of Union, Wendy Crumbley and Comie Savell, both of Carthage, Emily Baysinger of Philadelphia, Kristy Chambles of Carthage, Melissa Ellis of Decatur, Wyneda McLaurin of Newton, Angie Massey of Decatur, Hope Cole of Philadelphia, and Tera Culpepper and Austin Crouther, both of Decatur; third row, from left, Krystle Wolverton and Taylor Thames, both of Union, Tim Seibel of Lawrence, Clay Cockrell of Louisville, Amanda Spears of Philadelphia, Chassidy Smith of Decatur, Paige Lashley of Union, Tanner Long of Louisville, Michael Cox of Philadelphia, Amelia Sulley of Louisville and Gladys Edmond of Morton; and back row, from left, Denny Bryan of Marion, Tyler Hansford of Union, Brian Taylor of Decatur, Brandi Kennedy of Philadelphia, Sherry Huie of Thomastown, Terry Lightheart of Canton, first-year delegate, Brittni Cazier of Thomastown, vice-president, Rose Eichelberger of Noxapater, Jaclyn Wright of Louisville and Nioka Gillis of Newton.

WEEK OF 12-22-08

ECCC Phi Beta Lambda

Phi Beta Lambda members for 2008-09 have been announced for East Central Community College in Decatur. Phi Beta Lambda is the premier Business Education Association preparing students for careers in business and success in life. Its purpose is to foster a better relationship between one another and to cultivate a better understanding of business principles in general. Members include: (front row, from left) Denetra Darden of Louisville; Brittany Morrison and Kimberly Goodin, historian, both of Newton; Laura Pearson, parliamentarian, of Louisville; Kim Amerson, secretary, of Decatur; Rebecca Rogers, treasurer, of Chunky; Jonathan Federick, vice president, of Hickory; Josh Dickerson, president, of Union; and Aaron Morrison, reporter, of Newton; (second row, from left) Joni Bozeman of Dekalb; Tia Weaver of Sebastopol; Reva Coate of Chunky; Shaun Cooper of Decatur; Amanda Hampton of Louisville; Leslie Mangrum of Union; Jacqueline Ward of Conehatta; LaChelle Moss of Decatur; Windie Poston of Philadelphia; and Kristina Bell of Conehatta; (third row, from left) Abby McMillan and Tia C. Johnson, both of Newton; Mary Yousef of Carthage; Miranda Edwards of Forest; Meaghan Mayes, Hannah Watkins and Miriah Barney, all of Sebastopol; Cory Harkins of Carthage; Jeff Grimshel of Vicksburg; Jess Byars of Pontotoc; and Casey Shoemaker of Decatur; (back row, from left) Brett Latimer of Philadelphia; Henry Shumaker Jr. of Conehatta; Evan M. Summers-Jones of Walnut Grove; Zach Gibbs of Forest; Dexter McDonald of Jackson; Julius Wash of Morton; Ray Barnes of Meridian; Thomas White of Philadelphia; Jonathan Nelson of Louisville; Holt Hamrick of Newton and David T. Smith of Philadelphia. For more information about ECCC Phi Beta Lambda, contact Christy Ferguson at 601-635-6292 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 292. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

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WEEK OF 12-22-08

ECCC ASNEC officers

Officers for 2008-09 have been announced for East Central Community College chapter of ASNEC, an organization for students enrolled in the associate degree nursing program to promote and encourage participation in community affairs and activities. Officers include, from left, Doug Kelley, president and second-year delegate, of Sebastopol; Brittni Cazier, vice president, of Thomastown; Terry Lightheart, first-year delegate, of Canton; and Tiffanie Credille, secretary and second-year delegate, of Union.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN ✓

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL _____

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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ECCC ASNEC first-year members...ASNEC first-year members for 2008-09 have been announced for East Central Community College in Decatur. ASNEC is an organization for students enrolled in the Associate Degree Nursing Program. It is designed to promote and encourage participation in community affairs and activities towards improved healthcare and related social issues. First-year members include: (front row, from left) Brittany Harrison of Lena, Brandi Chambers of Forest, Holley Lindsay of Carthage, Betsy Powell of Philadelphia, Hailey Walker of Newton, Jessica Leach of Conehatta, Angela Gray and Erica Jenkins, both of Philadelphia, Lesley Porter and Betty Tucker, both of Morton; (second row, from left) Tanya Sistrunk of Union, Wendy Crumbley and Connie Savell, both of Carthage; Emily Baysinger of Philadelphia, Kristy Chamblee of Carthage, Melissa Etie of Decatur, Wyneda McLaurin of Newton, Angie Massey of Decatur, Hope Cole of Philadelphia, Tera Culpepper and Austin Crouther, both of Decatur; (third row, from left) Krystle Wolverton and Taylor Thames, both of Union; Tim Seibel of Lawrence, Clay Cockrell of Louisville, Amanda Spears of Philadelphia, Chassidy Smith of Decatur, Paige Lashley of Union, Tanner Long of Louisville, Michael Cox of Philadelphia, Amelia Sulley of Louisville and Gladys Edmond of Morton; and (back row, from left) Denny Bryan of Marion, Tyler Hansford of Union, Brian Taylor of Decatur, Brandi Kennedy of Philadelphia, Sherry Huie of Thomastown, Terry Lightheart, first-year delegate, of Canton; Brittni Cazier, vice-president of Thomastown; Rose Eichelberger of Noxapater, Jaclyn Wright of Louisville and Nioka Gillis of Newton. For more information about ECCC ASNEC contact Christy Savell at 601-635-6317, call toll free, 1-877-462-3222 ext. 317. (ECC Photo)

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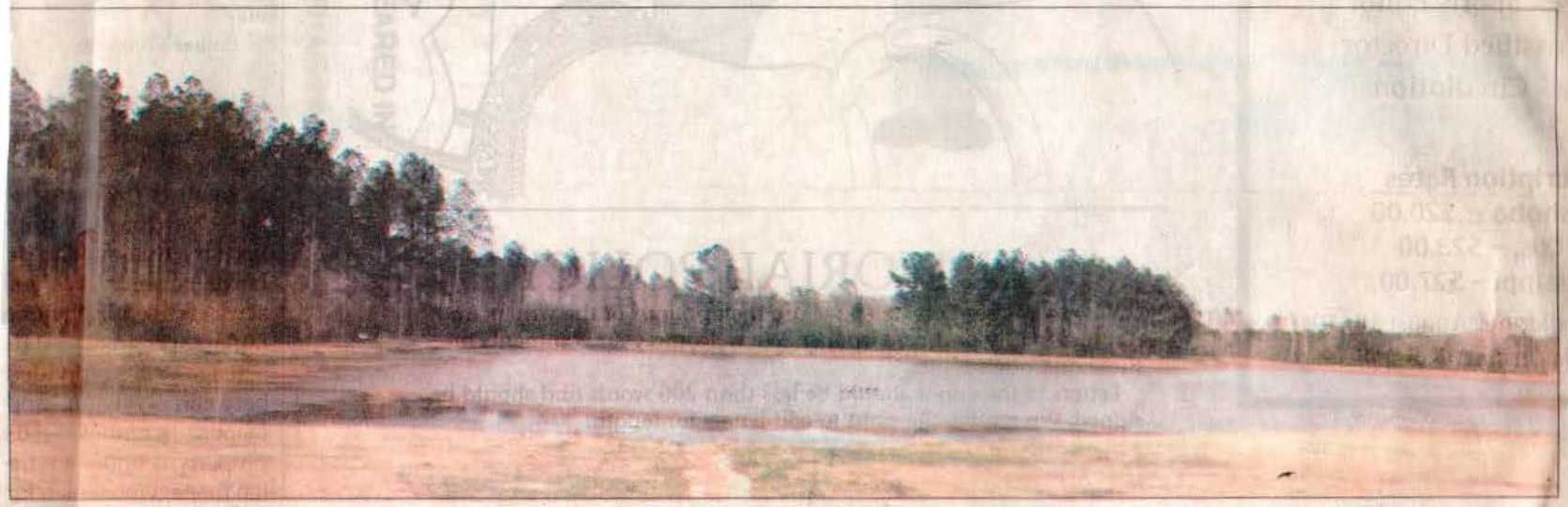
EC student drowns in campus pond



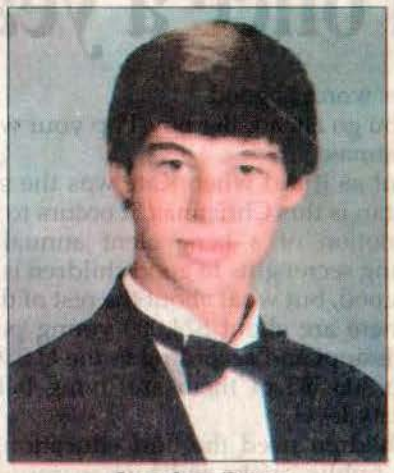
The pond at the walking track at ECCC in Decatur where freshman Landon Burt drowned Friday.

An East Central Community College student drowned Friday afternoon while trying to swim across the campus pond, authorities said Monday.

The body of eighteen-year old Landon Burt was recovered about 7:15 Friday evening, said Decatur Police Chief Joedy Pennington Monday.

Pennington said Burt was at the pond with two other teenagers Friday afternoon when he tried to swim across the pond.

"The water was forty-something degrees," said the chief.



Landon Burt

"He probably cramped up."

Pennington said thirteen agencies-including three dive teams- responded to the incident.

Details on why Burt tried to swim across the pond were unclear Monday.

The freshman pre-med major was a member of the Baptist Student Union at the college, but Pennington said he did not know if the young men were participating in a BSU-sponsored activity.

Burt graduated with honors from Newton County Academy in 2008, where he was Salutatorian, the STAR student, and Mr. NCA. He also received the academic/athletic award and was also a member of the MPSA All Star Basketball team.

He was a pre-med major at ECCC, where he was a member of the Warrior Corps, the school's recruiting organization.

The young man also worked part-time at Newton Junction in Newton.

Continued on page 7, see Death...

"He was as good as they come, said his supervisor and friend Joey Walters.

"It didn't matter what we asked him to do, it was always done right. He was such a good guy. You don't see many as good as him these days. We'll miss him an awful lot."

42 arrested for drugs in Scott County

The Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics arrested 42 suspected drug violators in Scott County December 16.

The arrests resulted from a seven-month MBN investigation into distribution of crystal methamphetamine, crack cocaine, marijuana and prescription drugs, according to an MBN news release.

Scott County Sheriff's Office and Forest Police Department participated in the investigation, and additional arrests are expected.

Those arrested, along with their charges:

•Connie Hudson, two counts of sale of crack cocaine;

Continued on page 7, see Drugs...

WEEK OF 12-29-08

Newton County Students In ECCC Band...East Central Community College students from Newton County who are members of the 2008-09 Wall O' Sound Marching Band include (seated from left) Miata Evans, a product of Newton High School; Candi Vance, April Dunavant and Savanna Smith, all of Newton County; and Lana Adkins, Anna Johnson, Krystle Wolverton and Jessica Galloway, all of Union; (second row, from left) Shardae Foley, Newton County; Ashley Braoch, Newton; Shaterica Curry, Newton County; Brooke Caraway, Newton; Kimberly Ammerson, Newton County; Van Williams, Lawrence; Marquita Moore, Newton; Paige Jones, Lacy Gilmore and Kim Ammerson, all of Newton County; and (top row, from left) Josh Talbert, Newton; Anthony Williams, Kyle Barrett, Brandon Hughes and Emilee Lanier, all of Newton County; and Kristina Harrison and Chris Smith, both of Union. Thomas W. Carson serves as director of bands and Jared Brownlee is assistant director. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

SPIRIT OF MORTON _____

NESHOBA DEMOCRAT _____

NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR _____

CLARION-LEDGER _____

WEEK OF 12-29-08

ECCC Surgical Technology Program Graduates...East Central Community College held its annual pinning ceremony for surgical technology graduates Dec. 18 in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus. Students who completed the health-related program and their respective hometowns are (seated, from left) April Tillman, Union; Deanna Morris, Carthage; Jessica LaPeze, Union; Laci Bridges, Lawrence; Jennileen Jackson, Philadelphia; and Shaquita Brown, Meridian; (second row, from left) Missy Williamson, Louisville; Kristian Evans, Hickory; Sheree Portis, Meridian; Monique Robinson, Newton; Candace Griffin, Philadelphia; Kristy Boswell, Union; and (back row, from left) Jacqueline Hunt, Eupora; Jessica Young, Meridian; Marty Boatner, Louisville; Jason Yarbrough, Philadelphia; Jeana Richardson, Union; and Synica Bester, Philadelphia. LaPeze also received student-of-the-year honors. LeAnn Shirley and Kristie Pilgrim serve as surgical technology instructors. (EC Photo)

APPEARED IN:

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SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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WEEK OF 12-29-08

ECCC

ECCC CHEERLEADER AWARD WINNERS: Awards in cheerleading were presented to the above East Central Community College students at the annual Fall Sports Awards Banquet held Dec. 2 on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are Kacy Covert, a product of West Lauderdale High School, tumble award; Emily Thrash of Sebastopol, academic, team captain and Warrior awards; Dekota Anthony of Neshoba Central, most outstanding sophomore; and Kayla Adcock of Winston Academy, most improved. Standing from left are East Rankin Academy product Juley Taylor of Lake, Warrior award; Kolby Sisson of Noxapater, team captain award; Daniel Steverson of Newton County Academy, team captain award; Will Emmons of Lake, NCA Rookie of the Year; and Anna Munn of West Lauderdale, team captain award. Not pictured is Randy Carl Arledge of Neshoba Central, best all-round cheerleader. ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and cheerleader coach Huellen Watson presented awards.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 3/17

JUCO TENNIS

Jones County J.C. sweeps East Central

ELLISVILLE – Jones County Junior College swept East Central Community College in tennis action here Tuesday afternoon.

The Lady Bobcats improved to 6-0 with a 9-0 decision over ECCC, while the JCJC men's team nipped the Warriors, 5-4.

The Lady Bobcats won all sets in posting the victory.

Lauren Wallace won No. 1 singles over Dru Anderson, 7-5, 6-3, while Erica Walker took No. 2 singles over Julie Gaines, 6-2, 6-3. Bess Butler claimed No. 3 singles over Nicole Bell, 6-4, 6-3 and Rachel Whaley took No. 4 singles over Cheryl Dowell, 6-3, 6-1.

Marisa Chaffin captured No. 5 singles over Ashley Henley, 6-2, 6-2, while Lisa Rittenhouse won No. 6 singles over Kylie Rigdon, 6-1, 6-2.

In No. 1 doubles, Wallace/Walker downed Anderson/Dowell, 8-3. Whaley/ J.J. Benson won No. 2 doubles over Gaines/Bell, 8-3 and Butler/Kelsey Roberts took No. 3 doubles over Henley/Rigdon, 8-3.

The Bobcats were down 2-1 after doubles play, but came back to win the match to improve their record to 5-4.

In No. 1 singles, ECCC's Devarius Walker defeated Casey Dykes, 4-6, 6-2, 10-5. JCJC's Cale Pastorek won No. 2 singles over Keith Brown, 3-6, 6-4, 10-7. In No. 3 singles, JCJC's Miles Nerren beat Josh Moore, 6-4, 6-3, while Bobcat Brian Martin took No. 4 singles over Joey Ceiglo, 7-5, 6-4.

In No. 5 singles, JCJC's Chris Guizerix defeated Matt Wade, 7-5, 6-3 and ECCC's Phillip Savell won No. 6 singles over Jonathan Myrick, 6-0, 7-5.

Dykes/Pastorek won No. 1 doubles over Moore/Brown, 8-4. Wade/Walker took No. 2 doubles over Martin/Nerren, 8-3. Chris King/Lorenzo Jones of ECCC won No. 3 doubles over Guizerix/Aaron Stricklin, 8-3.

— from school reports

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 3/31

ECCC Tennis score wins

East Central Community College's tennis teams scored victories over Holmes Community College and Northeast Mississippi Community College in recent competition.

The ECCC women posted an 9-0 shut-out over the Lady Bulldogs and the ECCC men were victorious by an 8-1 margin over the Holmes men during matches played March 20 on the Decatur campus.

Lady Warriors who teamed up to win doubles competition included Dru Anderson of Decatur and Nichole Ball of Louisville; Julie Gaines of Philadelphia and Cheryl Dowel of Lena; and Ashley Henley of Hickory and Kylie Rigdon of Union. Each player was also successful in the singles.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 3/31

Members of the 2008 East Central Community College women's tennis team are (from left) Julie Gaines of Philadelphia, Dru Anderson of Decatur, Cheryl Dowell of Lena, Nichole Ball of Louisville, Ashley Henley of Hickory, and Kylie Rigdon of Union. Lady Warrior coaches are Diane and Pat O'Neil and Kyle Watson. The MACJC state tournament is scheduled April 17-19 in Meridian.

EC photo

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

SCOTT COUNTY TIMES _____

UNION APPEAL ✓

WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ✓

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THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

ECCC Tennis Teams defeat Pearl River, Southwest Squads

From Press Reports

Victories over Pearl River and Southwest community colleges highlighted competition last week for the East Central Community College tennis teams.

In the matchups with Pearl River March 27 in Decatur, the Lady Warriors posted a 5-4 decision and the Warriors cruised to an 8-1 win.

In women's doubles, EC's Dru Anderson of Decatur teamed with Nichole Ball of Louisville to defeat Kara Strebeck and Hannah Harris (8-6) and Lady Warriors Julie Gaines of Philadelphia and Cheryl Dowell of Lena edged Brittany Smithey and Courtney Spiers (9-7). EC's Kylie Rigdon of Union and Ashley Henley of Hickory fell 8-6 in their match with Elise Coston and Arianna Levine.

In women's singles, EC winners were Gaines over Smithey (6-2, 6-3), Ball over Harris (6-0, 6-0) and Henley over Coston (7-5, 6-1). Anderson fell to Strebeck (6-3, 6-2), Dowell lost to Spiers (7-5, 6-1) and Rigdon was clipped by Levine (6-4, 6-1).

The EC men blitzed the Wildcats in doubles competition, as Keith Brown of Forest and Josh Moore of Newton defeated Justin Barrett and Kasey Peterson (8-2), Devarus Walker of Newton and Matt Wade of Forest beat Steven Georgian and Wesley Graham (8-1), and Lorenzo Jones of Newton and Chris King of Louisville were victorious over Jacob Aycock and Joseph Anderson (8-2).

In singles competition, EC won five of six matches as Walker defeated Barrett (6-3, 6-2), Brown clipped Georgian (6-4, 6-1), Moore rallied to beat Peterson (4-6, 6-4, 10-7), Joseph Cieglo of Forest edged Graham (7-6, 7-8, 7-5) and Wade took care of Aycock (6-3, 6-4). Phillip Savell of Philadelphia fell in his match with Matt Sumrall (4-6, 1-6).

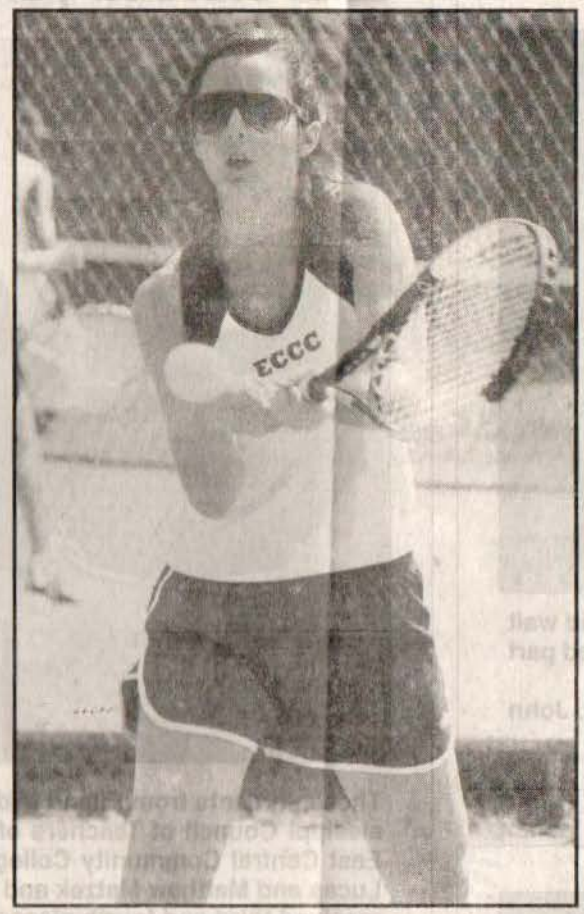
Against Southwest on March 26 in Summit, the Lady Warriors posted a 6-3 win and the Warriors were victorious 8-1.

In women's action, EC winners in doubles competition were Anderson and Ball (7-6, 6-3) and Rigdon and Henry (8-3). Dowell and Gaines fell in their matchup by an 8-2 score.

EC winners in singles were Anderson (7-6, 6-3), Gaines (6-2, 6-3), Ball (6-4, 6-0) and Rigdon (6-0, 6-0). Dowell and Henley fell in their respective matches by scores of 3-6, 7-5, 10-6 and 7-6, 6-1.

Warrior squad members taking honors in doubles competition were Brown and Moore (8-2), Walker and Wade (9-8) and King and Jones (8-4).

East Central won five of six matches in singles, as Walker (6-1, 6-2), Brown (6-0, 6-0), Moore (6-3, 6-3), Cieglo (6-0, 6-1) and Savell (6-3,6-4) posted victories. Wade fell in his match by scores of 6-4 and 6-3.



East Central Community College tennis player Dru Anderson of Decatur is shown in action against Pearl River Community College during matches played March 27 in Decatur. Anderson teamed with Nichole Ball of Louisville to win their doubles match (8-6) against Kara Strebeck and Hanna Harris. The Lady Warriors posted a 5-4 decision over the Lady Wildcats and ECCC's Warriors were also victorious, as they cruised to an 8-1 win.

The Lady Warriors and Warriors fell to Itawamba Community College on March 25 in Fulton by scores of 8-1 and 8-0 respectively.

Dowell was the only winner for EC, as she captured a singles match by scores of 6-1 and 6-4.

In matches scheduled this week, EC serves as host for three consecutive matches – Itawamba on April 1 beginning at 1 p.m.; Copiah-Lincoln on April 2 starting at 2 p.m.; and Southwest on April 3 getting underway at 1 p.m.

East Central takes on Sneed beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 5 at Meridian Community College.

The ECCC tennis teams are coached by Diane and Pat O'Neil and Kyle Watson.

WEEK OF 4/7

CLARION-LEDGER

THE PHILADELPHIAN

SPIRIT OF MORTON

WEEK OF 4/7

ECCC Warrior tennis team defeats Pearl River,

From Press Reports

The East Central Community College men's tennis team evened its 2008 record to 6-6 after posting wins over Pearl River Community College April 5 in Hattiesburg and Copiah-Lincoln Community College April 2 on the Decatur campus. The Lady Warriors were not as fortunate and fell in both matchups.

Against Pearl River, the EC men slipped past the Wildcats by a 5-4 margin after taking two of three doubles matches and splitting the singles competition.

Warriors Matt Wade of Forest and Devarus Walker of Newton teamed to win their doubles match by an 8-4 score, and Lorenzo Jones of Newton and Phillip Savell of Philadelphia cruised to an 8-3 win. Keith Brown of Forest and partner Josh Moore of Newton were edged 10-8 in their contest.

EC players winning their respective singles competition included Walker (6-1, 6-0), Wade (6-2, 6-3) and Savell (6-4, 3-6, 10-6). Losses were registered by Brown (6-3, 4-6, 5-10), Moore (6-1, 4-6, 8-10) and Jones (5-7, 4-6).

The EC women fell 8-1 to the Lady Wildcats and dipped to 4-8 in season action.

Cheryl Dowell of Lena was the lone winner for EC, as she claimed a 6-3, 6-1 victory in singles. Losses were incurred by Dru Anderson of Decatur (6-2, 1-6, 10-12) and Julie Gaines of Philadelphia (6-1, 4-6, 7-10). Anderson and Gaines also fell in their doubles match (4-6). The other matches were forfeits.

In the matchups with Copiah-Lincoln, the Warriors claimed a 6-3 win and the Lady Warriors fell 7-1.

Walker and Wade won their doubles match by an 8-4 score and Chris King of Louisville and Jones were also victorious by posting an 8-4 decision. Moore and Brown were defeated in their doubles match also by an 8-4 score.

In singles competition, Warriors winning their respective matches included Walker (4-6, 6-2, 10-6), Brown (6-2, 6-2), Wade (6-0, 6-1) and Jones (6-2, 6-2). Moore and King were defeated in their matches by scores of 4-6, 6-2, 8-10 and 2-6, 0-6 respectively.

In women's action, Nichole Ball of Louisville posted the only win for the Lady Warriors with her 6-3, 1-6 and 10-8 victory in singles competition. Also competing in singles and their respective scores were Anderson (2-6, 1-6), Gaines (0-6, 2-6) and Dowell (1-6, 0-6).

Anderson and Ball were nipped 8-6 in doubles and Dowell and Gaines fell 8-1 in their matchup.

Serving as ECCC tennis coaches are Dianne and Pat O'Neil and Kyle Watson.

APPEARED IN:

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WEEK OF 4/7

ECCC Warrior Tennis Team Defeats Pearl River, Co-Lin

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WEEK OF April 21, 2008

East Central Community College Fast-Pitch Softball Tryouts

Tryouts for the 2008-2009 ECCC fast-pitch softball team will be held April 23, on the Decatur campus. Prospective members should report to the college softball field by 1 p.m. Call coach Scott Hill at (601)635-6301 or email shill@eccc.edu.

Juco Softball

ECCC ladies vie for state title

from school reports

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team wrapped up another successful regular season with a doubleheader sweep of Northeast Mississippi Community College Monday afternoon on the Decatur campus.

The Lady Diamond Warriors are now focused on the upcoming MACJC State Softball Championship, which begins today at the Clinton High School softball field.

The top two teams in the MACJC North, Central and South divisions qualify for the double-elimination event, hosted this year by the Central Division winner, Hinds Community College.

East Central, which finished season action with a 24-14 overall record and placed second in the MACJC Central Division with a 12-4 mark under fifth-year head coach Scott Hill, begins tournament competition against Itawamba Community College at 1 p.m. today.

Also participating are Copiah-Lincoln, Gulf Coast and Northeast Mississippi.

Competition concludes with the championship game scheduled at 2 p.m. Saturday.

APPEARED IN:

CARTHAGINIAN _____

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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NEWTON RECORD _____

MERIDIAN STAR X

CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

ECCC Tennis squads fall to Copiah-Lincoln, Hinds

From Press Reports

East Central Community College's tennis squads fell to Copiah-Lincoln Community College on April 14 in Wesson and to Hinds Community College in Raymond on April 10.

Against Co-Lin, the ECCC men lost a 5- 4 nail-biter and the Lady Warriors were outscored 8-1.

Warriors winning in doubles competition included "Scooter" Walker of Hickory and Matt Wade of Forest, who posted an 8-4 win over Nic Hatten and J. Hewitt, and Chris King of Louisville and Lorenzo Jones of Newton, winners of an 8-3 decision over K. Weldon and Brett Hart. Josh Moore of Newton and teammate Keith Brown of Forest were clipped 8-4 by J. Ratcliff and B. Smith.

In men's singles, Wade defeated Weldon 6-2, 7-5 and Phillip Savell of Philadelphia won his match over Hart by a 6-2, 6-0 margin. Walker, Brown, Moore and Joseph Cieglo of Forest were defeated in their respective matches.

The Warriors fell to 7-8 for the season following the narrow defeat.

In women's action, Dru Anderson of Decatur and Nichole Ball of Louisville partnered to defeat Sarah Taylor and Jenna Dickerson 9-7 for EC's lone win. Also competing in women's doubles were partners Julie Gaines of Philadelphia and Cheryl Dowell of Lena, and Ashley Henley of Hickory and Kylie Rigdon of Union.

Lady Warriors who fell in their respective singles matches included Anderson, Gaines, Ball, Dowell, Henley and Rigdon.

The ECCC women dropped to 5-10 following the loss.

Against Hinds, King and Jones were the lone doubles winner for the Warriors, as they benefitted from a forfeit. Walker and Wade fell 9-7 in the doubles matchup, and Moore and Savell were defeated 8-1.

In men's singles, Wade defeated Everett 6-3, 6-1 and Savell won his match via the forfeit. Walker, Jones, Moore and Cieglo were outscored in their respective matches.

Hinds won the match by a 6-3 margin.

In women's competition, EC was blanked 9-0. Anderson and Gaines lost their respective doubles matchup as did Dowell and Henley. Anderson, Gaines, Dowell and Henley were defeated in singles competition.

Regular season competition concludes Tuesday, April 15 against visiting Jones County Junior College.

The women's state tournament is scheduled April 17-19 in Meridian. Men's state competition is set April 24-26 in Hattiesburg.

WEEK OF April 21, 2008

APPEARED IN:

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CLARION-LEDGER _____

THE PHILADELPHIAN _____

WEEK OF April 21, 2008

ECCC Warrior Tennis Team Defeats Jones

A 5-4 win over Jones County Junior College April 15 concluded regular season competition for the East Central Community College men's team which evened its record to 8-8 for the 2008 campaign.

The Warriors have now set their sights on the MACJC State Tournament scheduled April 24-26 in Hattiesburg.

In the victory over Jones, EC players winning in doubles were Matt Wade of Forest and "Scooter" Walker of Hickory, who posted an 8-5 decision over Miles Nerren and Brian Martin, and Chris King of Louisville and Lorenzo Jones of Newton, who clipped Chris Guizeiz and Aaron Stricklin by a 9-7 margin. Keith Brown of Forest and Josh Moore of Newton fell 9-7 in their doubles match with Casey Dykes and Cole Pastorek.

In singles competition, Walker defeated Dykes 6-0, 7-5; Wade beat Guizerix 6-1, 6-3; and Phillip Savell of Philadelphia cruised past Jonathan Myrick 6-2, 6-1. Brown, Moore and Jones were defeated in their respective matches.

In women's action, the Lady Warriors fell 7-2 to the Lady Bobcats and finished season competition with a 5-11 record.

EC winners against JCJC include Dru Anderson of Decatur and Nichole Ball of Louisville, who defeated Lauren Wallace and Erica Walker 8-3 in doubles. Ball also won her singles match against Bess Butler by a 6-1, 4-6, 10-7 score.

Julie Gaines of Philadelphia and Cheryl Dowell of Lena fell 8-3 in their doubles match with Rachel Whaley and J.J. Benson, and Ashley Henley of Hickory and Kylie Rigdon of Union were also not successful, as they fell 8-0 to Butler and Kelsey Roberts.

In singles competition, Anderson fell to Wallace (6-4,7-6,10-8), Gaines lost to Walker (6-1, 6-2), Dowell was edged by Whaley (6-3, 6-1), Henley was beaten by Benson (6-1, 6-0) and Rigdon was clipped by Roberts (6-1, 6-2).

The Lady Warriors finished seventh in the state tournament held April 17-19 in Meridian.

ECCC tennis coaches are Dianne and Pat O'Neil and Kyle Watson.

APPEARED IN:

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WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL _____

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THE PHILADELPHIAN X

WEEK OF May 12, 2008

Warriors Recognize Top Athletes

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

DECATUR—Various honors were presented to members of East Central Community College's spring sports teams during the annual awards program held last week.

ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and respective team coaches presented awards.

Receiving honors in baseball were Robert Westbrook of Little Rock, scholar athlete; Brian Jones of Scottsville, Ky., most valuable player and most valuable pitcher; Jack Edmonson of Louisville, most improved; and Josh Lafferty of Quitman, Jamie Clark Warrior Award. Lafferty, Chris Parkman of Pulaski and Jacob Casey of Union received team captain honors.

The Diamond Warriors are led by head coach Neal Holliman and assistants Michael Avalon and Roberto Martinez.

Recipients of awards in women's basketball included Tawaytha Evans of Newton, scholar athlete; Tenesha Brown of Jackson, most valuable offensive player, third team NJCAA All-American, All-Region 23 and MACJC All-State; Chotsani Henderson of Newton, most valuable defensive player; Allison Phillips of Carthage, most improved; Jordan Patterson of Aberdeen, hustle award; and Rashima Jenkins of Bossier City, La., Lady Warrior Award and All-Region 23.

ECCC PHOTO

Members of the 2008 East Central Community College men's tennis team include (kneeling from left) Lorenzo Jones, Chris King, Josh Moore, Joe Nelson and Noah Cook. (standing from left) *Joseph Cieglo, Tyler Walters and Keith Brown, all of Forest*; Phillip Savell, *Matt Wade of Forest* and Devarus Walker. Warrior coaches are Diane and Pat O'Neil and Kyle Watson.

The Lady Warrior team was also recognized for winning the Region 23 Tournament and advancing to the NJCAA Women's Basketball Championship in Salina, Kansas.

Bill Smith serves as Lady Warrior head coach and Blessing Chekwa is his assistant.

In men's basketball, award winners were Karl Robinson of Jackson, scholar athlete; Josh Luckett of Carthage, most valuable offensive player; ***Rod Lofton of Forest, most valuable defensive player***; Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Hickory, most improved player; Mark Wilson of Delhia, La., hustle award; and Darron Maxtion of Ardmore, Ala., Warrior Award.

Maurice Bowie of Morton serves as head coach and Brandon Cornelius is his assistant.

In golf, Alex Deason of Philadelphia received the scholar athlete award and was recognized for having the lowest scoring average during competition. Chase Ward of Sylacauga, Ala., was recognized for making the All-Tournament Team at the ECCC Invitational held at *Forest Country Club*.

James Moore of Forest serves as head coach.

Receiving awards in fastpitch softball were Whitnee White of Philadelphia, scholar athlete, most outstanding offensive player, team captain award and first team All-State; Shenique Brass of Philadelphia, most valuable player, team captain award, first team All-State, first team All-Division; Sondreia Hill of Union, most outstanding defensive player, team captain award, first team All-State and first team All-Division; Codee Russell of Madden and Amber Smith of Union, most outstanding pitchers and second team All-Division; Lindsey Stevens of Decatur, Lady Warrior Award and team captain award; Laura Smith of Philadelphia, team captain award; and Haley Chipley of Carthage and Leah Dennis of Philadelphia, second team All-Division.

Freshman Lady Diamond Warrior Emily Thrash slides safely into third base during East Central Community College's 12-4 blowout against division foe Holmes Community College.

ECCC

From Page 12

Scott Hill of Forest is head coach and Tiffany Thomas served as his assistant.

In women's tennis, awards were presented to Dru Anderson of Decatur, scholar athlete and most valuable player; Julie Gaines of Philadelphia, team captain; and Cheryl Dowell of Lena, Warrior Award.

Recipients of awards for men's tennis included ***Keith Brown of Forest, scholar athlete and Warrior Award***; ***Joseph Cieglo, also of Forest, scholar athlete***; Devarus "Scooter" Walker of Hickory, most valuable player; and Josh Moore of Newton, team captain.

Kyle Watson and Dianne and Pat O'Neill serve as coaches.

WEEK OF Nov. 26, 2008

Four Cougar Netters Ink With ECCC

Four outstanding Newton County High School tennis players recently signed scholarships with East Central Community College. Signing are, from left, Darius Walker, Colton Amis, Elise Gibbs, and Jason Hancock. With the signees are (standing) Chad Bond, NCHS tennis coach; Mamie Walker, grandmother of Darius Walker; Allen and Kim Amis, parents of Colton Amis; Randy and Debbie Gibbs, parents of Elise Gibbs; Deborah Mathis, mother of Jason Hancock; and Kyle Watson, representing the ECCC athletic department. As a group, this senior class has led Newton County to three consecutive division championships as well as the Class 3A South State Championship, and three consecutive 3A state runner-up finishes. In individual play, the senior tennis players won seven division titles, one state championship, and have finished runner-up in the state four times. Darius Walker has been a part of the Cougar tennis team since the seventh grade and joined the varsity as an eighth grader. He joined the starting lineup as a freshmen. Darius compiled a 48-38 record over his career. As a sophomore, Darius was on the boys' doubles division championship team and finished in the state tournament semifinals. His junior and senior seasons, he was on the boys' double team that won two more division titles. He added a runner-up finish in 2007 and a semifinal appearance in 2008 in boys' doubles. Colton Amis played one year of high school tennis. He finished the year with a 15-3 record in mixed doubles. He was part of the Division 6-3A mixed doubles champions and the 2008 state runner-up in mixed doubles. Elise Gibbs has been a member of the tennis team since the sixth grade. She has been a starter since her freshman season. Her career record is 64-28 which places her first in matches won over her career among girls playing at NCHS. Ellis was runner-up in the state in doubles two years ago and runner-up last year in girls' singles. This season she posted a combined record of 18-7, including a 2-1 record in girl's singles and a 16-6 record at No. 1 girls' doubles. She was a member of the girls' doubles team that won the Division 6-3A Championship and the 2008 3A state championship. Jason Hancock joined the tennis team as a freshman and broke into the starting lineup as a junior. His junior and senior seasons Jason compiled a 34-14 record and won two division titles at boys' doubles. He was a member of the boys' doubles team that finished runner-up in the state as a junior. They were defeated in the semifinals of the individual tournament.

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UNION APPEAL ✓ WINSTON COUNTY JOURNAL ____ SPIRIT OF MORTON ____

WEEK OF June 4, 2008

ECCC TENNIS

Members of the 2008 East Central Community College men's tennis team include (kneeling from left) Lorenzo Jones of Newton, Chris King of Louisville, Josh Moore of Newton, Joe Nelson of Brandon and Noah Cook of Hickory and (standing from left) Joseph Ciegio, Tyler Walters and Keith Brown, all of Forest; Phillip Savell of Philadelphia, Matt Wade of Forest and Devarus Walker of Decatur. Warrior coaches are Diane and Pat O'Neil and Kyle Watson. Season competition gets underway February 19 and continues through April 15. The men's state tournament is scheduled April 24-26 in Hattiesburg.

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WEEK OF June 16, 2008

ECCC Tennis Award Winners

These members of the East Central Community College women's tennis team received honors following the 2008 season. From left are Julie Gaines of Philadelphia, team captain; Chery Dowell of Lena, Warrior Award; and Dru Anderson of Decatur, Scholar Award and Most Valuable Player. Presentations were made by ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin and tennis coaches Dianne O'Neill and Kyle Watson at the annual Spring Sports Awards Program held on the Decatur campus.

ECCC photo

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